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Volume 12, Number 4

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Reagan Gomez Preston leads UNCF Walk-a-Thon

by Lynne D. Johnson



Reagan Gomez Preston (r) keeps stride while walking partner.

Reagan Gomez Preston, who portrays Robert Townsend's teenage daughter, Zaria, on the WB Network sitcom "The Parent Hood" led the United Negro College Fund's Walk-a-Thon, Sunday, October 13, 1995. The Philadelphia native, who was a track star at her local high school, convinced her mother that she should move to Los Angeles so that she could pursue her career as an actress. With \$150,000 and a video camera supplied by NBC's "Dateline," Reagan and her mother headed west to California. Within a period of less than two months, Reagan had impressed the executives at the WB Network and landed the role for the newly developed program, "The Parent Hood" and secured a role in the Disney Production of "Freaky Friday."

"Whatever your dream is, you have to be extremely determined and focused on your goal. I had to make a lot of sacrifices to earn the money to come, and then leave behind friends and family for two months. I am already convinced that the only way to achieve what you desire is through hard work and dedication," states Reagan. "I am thrilled at the opportunity to be involved with and walking for, something as important as the United Negro College Fund."

"It is very important when young people like Reagan come out to support events like the UNCF's Walk-a-Thon," says Telethon Coordinator Producer Donna Carter-Butler. "It shows that so many of our youth are aware of what it takes to succeed in this world and are willing to make a commitment to a better future for us all."

Gomez Preston was joined in the kick-off ceremonies by Hal Jackson's Talented Teen, Ebony Mack, who sang an inspirational, gospel tune, Ebony Mack and Mr. Jackson will present a check from the Walk-a-Thon to the UNCF at the taping of the Telethon on January 6, 1996.

Participants were given the chance to warm up and stretch with representatives from Reebok. The WBLS Sure Shots were also on hand, giving out WLJB (BLS' sister station) baseball caps.

The College Fund is the nation's oldest and most successful minority higher education assistance organization. Its historic mission, to provide the resources to educate a new generation of leaders year after year, positions it to meet the needs of schools.

See WALK-A-THON/page A-6

2500 PLAINFIELD STUDENTS SAY 'YES'



Over 2,500 hundred Plainfield students were on hand to say "YES" to their future during the recent YES magazine "Say YES to Your Future" rally held at Hub Stein Field in Plainfield.

by Lynne D. Johnson

PLAINFIELD—It was a rally like no other. More than 2,000 Plainfield Public Schools students met at Hub Stein Field on October 13 to say "YES" to their futures. They came out to take responsibility for their education, and to have a little fun.

This rally was conceptualized and designed by WBS Communications, Inc., the publishing entity of YES Magazine, as a means to address the increasing hopelessness expressed by teens in many of the nation's largest urban communities. The Say "YES" to Your Future rally focuses on helping

students realize their potential for a bright future as the key to reducing their activity in negative, potentially detrimental behaviors and redirecting their energy toward the attainment of positive goals. AT&T was a co-sponsor for the event, which received other support from New Jersey corporations—including Bell Atlantic, PSEG, First Federal, Hochstetler and KFC.

As bus loads and bus loads of students continued to arrive, the rally got underway. The PBS Band/Gospel Choir opened up the program with melodic, inspirational singing. New students took part in a Roll Call, led

by rally hostess, Jill Johnson of YES Communications, Inc. You could hear students chanting for miles, "We're here united, ready and excited."

Also on hand at the rally was Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Larry Leverett and YES Magazine Publisher, Dr. Henry Johnson, to extend warm welcomes to the students. Plainfield Mayor, Mark Furry, who also was in attendance, declared October 13 "YES" to Your Future Month. He told the students that, "life is a pass, fast. Past it. Education is key." This he said, was a lesson from Colin Powell.

See PLAINFIELD STUDENT/page A-6

PHA gets NAHRO Merit Award

PLAINFIELD—The Housing Authority of Plainfield is the 1995 recipient of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials' (NAHRO) Merit Award for its Family Self Sufficiency Program. The program, which currently serves fifty-five families, combines job and education with housing assistance.

The award, which recognizes outstanding achievement in housing and community development programs throughout the nation, was presented to Vice Chairman Robert H. Wilson.

"NAHRO is proud of those agencies which are setting examples through innovative programs and an ongoing commitment to excellence," said NAHRO President Robert L. Armstrong. "Agencies such as the Housing Authority of Plainfield are doing a remarkable job responding to the enormous challenges they face each day. We feel they are setting quality standards for other agencies to follow."

In accepting the award, agency

spokesperson, Richard D. Fox, said that education and jobs are the keys to opening the door to self-sufficiency and providing decent, safe and sanitary housing. It is not enough as housing officials to focus on housing alone. Education and vocational development can eliminate housing problems.



Displaying the NAHRO Award are Plainfield Housing Authority's staff (l to r) Commissioners Barbara G. Johnson and Robert A. Dixon; Bernice Holly, Tenant Selection Supervisor; Richard D. Fox, executive director; Chairman, Charles F. Becker; Commissioner Flor Gonzalez; Vice Chairman Robert H. Wilson; and Vernita E. Sias-Hill, Housing Authority attorney.

Photo courtesy of Plainfield Housing Authority

Leo the Lion gives lessons at Alexander Street School

by Ollie M. Davis



Daniel Payne Jr. and wife Beatrice pose with Deputy Kee and Leo the Lion at Alexander Street School.

NEWARK—On October 23, the NJ Law Enforcement Officer's Association adopted the Alexander Street School for its drug education programs. The adoption was the brainchild of Deputy Lawrence Kee of the Essex County Sheriff's Department, who is a volunteer teacher's assistant at the school through the Project 2000 program, and a full-time employee at the Garden State Parkway as a tolls manager. Deputy Kee read the proclamation to principal Art Hooper.

The occasion was attended by the third to fifth grade classes who were introduced to Leo the

Lion a deputy robot lion who came outfitted with his own badge, car and siren, along with Sable of the K-9 unit and her master Detective Machete. Special Agent Robert Logan of the Drug Enforcement Agency gave information on how his office monitors drugs. The children participated in an interactive play in which Garden State Parkway toll collectors Donald Payne Jr. and his wife Beatrice acted out a scene with the kids starring in supporting roles.

The scene depicted a drug dealer attempting to sell drugs to a kid. The role of the support staff was to say "no" and call Leo the Lion to the rescue. The kids yelled out "no" so loudly that Leo the Lion came running with his siren and a deputy to

See LEO /page A-6

WHAT NEXT?

ALONG THE COLOR LINE Part one of a two-part series

Million Man March

"There is a great divide, but the real evil in America is not white flesh or black flesh. The real evil in America is the idea that undergirds the setup of the Western world, and that idea is called white supremacy. Declared Louis Farrakhan in his two-hour keynote speech before the largest public demonstration of African-Americans in United States history.

On October 16, hundreds of thousands of black men from across America gathered in Washington, DC, in front of the Capitol. The US Parks Service conservatively estimated the crowd at four hundred thousand. Independent observers placed the demonstration between six hundred fifty thousand to over one million people. By all accounts, the Million Man March of 1995 paled by comparison to the historical 1963 March on Washington, led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at the height of the Civil Rights Movement a generation ago.

It is to Farrakhan's credit that he recognized the deep emotional and cultural crisis which is at the heart of the African-American community today. African-Americans who described a deep sense of fellowship and a community of common feeling.

Men wept openly, embracing each other, committing themselves to the spirit of personal and civic engagement. Many participants explained to the media that they had not come to Washington, DC, in support of Farrakhan's political agenda. Rather, they were there to express a deep desire for the national black community to come together, in a process of healing and binding its wounds.

In one opinion poll, 85 percent of all African-Americans expressed support for "The Million Man March." Thousands of people returned to their homes with a renewed dedication to participate in black organizations and institutions. For example, although the National Urban League and its affiliates refused to endorse the March, many blacks returning from the mobilization contacted this moderate civil rights organization to volunteer their services.

Farrakhan's call for the march had prominently included a demand for "atonement," that African-Americans should recognize "wrongdone and to make amends," and to apologize for all offenses "against the Creator." March organizers claimed that the crisis confronting African-American men was so intense that they needed to reclaim their own "manhood" by and for themselves.

A mass public gathering of black men would represent a symbolic challenge to the white power structure. The March agenda spoke relatively little about contemporary public policy issues, such as affirmative action, immigration or welfare reform. It emphasized the need for blacks to assume "personal responsibility" for their own circumstances, and challenged African-American males to provide leadership for their families and communities.

In New Jersey

According to Minister Khadir Muhammad of Mosque #25 in Newark, the Nation of Islam has implemented an eight-point plan to keep in momentum with the march.

- 1) Keep the local organizing groups working. There are groups in Plainfield, Newark, Asbury Park, Paterson, Jersey City and East Orange.
- 2) Keep the state together. All leadership should keep the local organizing committee groups together so they won't stop because of the march.
- 3) There is a spiritual necessity and moral upliftment that must be maintained. It is up to us as men to want to that march to keep the love, exchange, brotherhood and peace

This successful demonstration of mass support instantly capitalized Farrakhan as a significant figure in black and national politics as media and public leaders hastily attempted to draw a distinction between "the March" and "the messenger." General Colin Powell, for example, explained, "while I deplore the message of Minister Farrakhan, I cannot ignore what's happening in the presence of several hundred thousand African-Americans who care about themselves, care about their future, care about the future of this country."

President Clinton delivered a major address on race relations at the same time of the March, although at a safe distance, more than one thousand miles away in Austin, Texas. Clinton declared, "Today's march is...about pride and dignity and respect-but after a generation of deepening social problems that disproportionately impact black Americans. It is also about black men taking renewed responsibility for themselves, their families and their communities. It's about saying "no" to crime and drugs and violence. It's about standing up for atonement and reconciliation."

Many conservative Republicans also actively praised the self-help/atonement thesis of Farrakhan. The New York Times editorial predictably condemned Farrakhan, but praised the "spirit of goodwill" and the "sober assessment of the continued damage that racism is doing in American society."

Despite its popularity, the March never received unanimous support among black Americans. Many prominent black feminists, including scholar/political activist Angela Davis and economist Julian Malveaux, publicly condemned the March's position that women could not participate.

Many black gay men were turned off by Farrakhan's homophobia, such as his 1993 statement that "we must change homosexual behavior and get rid of the circumstances that bring it about."

Many politicians and black progressives had also criticized the march for not aggressively attacking the Republicans' "Contract With America." Although many feel that these are not significant issues, one must keep in mind that sometimes the majority can be wrong. In 1991, the majority of African-Americans favored the appointment of Clarence Thomas to the United States Supreme Court.

Thomas's subsequent conservative tenure has represented a disaster for black people. Although the brothers who came to Washington, DC should be embraced and applauded, we need to remember that popularity by itself is no guarantee that the masses are pointed in the right direction. The real question which must be faced is: What happens next?

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of History and Director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies, Columbia University, New York City. "Along the Color Line" appears in over 275 newspapers and is featured by 80 radio stations across the US and internationally.

between us.

4) We must revise religion in the United States of America and become servants of that religion to the people.

- 5) Register the eight million unregistered voters and create a third party that speaks to the black agenda.
- 6) Must be able to state beyond us and choose organizations for the good of both.

7) Adopt an inmate that is incarcerated and help them through their jail time. "to see how help this brother or sister from becoming a repeat offender. These are some of the avenues that we intend to take which

See WHAT NEXT? page A-6

PEOPLE

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THRU NOVEMBER 4

NEW YORK—Drawing in the park and Nature Workshops every Saturday. For more info call 212-267-9700.

THRU NOVEMBER 7

CRANFORD—"Astronomy: Discovering the Universe" course on Tuesdays from 8:10 to 8:40 p.m. at Union County College. For more info call 908-709-7800.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

BRIDGEWATER—College education seminars at Bridgewater-Raritan Middle School at 7 p.m. For more info call 908-725-1552.

JERSEY CITY—"Legal Education Program" at Jersey City State College at 2 p.m. For more info call 201-200-3169.

MONTCLAIR—LSAT prep course at Montclair State University from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. For more info call 201-655-4152.

NOVEMBER 1 THRU DECEMBER 13

HACKENSACK—"Self-esteem For Women" seven-week workshop at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 201-343-6000.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

JERSEY CITY—"Leadership in Teaching" workshop for teachers at Jersey City State College at 4 p.m. For more info call 201-200-3094.

PLAINFIELD—Job Fair from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Union County College. For more info call 908-412-3595.

NEW BRUNSWICK—Discussion on contributions of Caribbeans, Africans and African-Americans to American culture at Rutgers University at 6 p.m. For more info call 908-332-7505.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

JERSEY CITY—Two-hour dance workshops at Jersey City State College 2 - 4 p.m. For additional info call 201-200-3151.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

PLAINFIELD—Building Bridges: Plainfield 2000 - Children First program at Plainfield High School 9 a.m. For more info call 908-753-3192.

EDISON—Toasts Masters International meeting at Edison Public Library at 11 a.m. For more info call 908-940-2536.

NOVEMBER 4, 5, 11

NEWARK—Daughter of the Stars.

Mother Earth/Father Sky and Galaxies planetarium shows at the Newark Museum. For additional info call 201-596-6550.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

HACKENSACK—"Successful Interviewing Strategies" course at Bergen County Technical Schools at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 201-343-6000, ext. 3345.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

HACKENSACK—"Financial Education For Your Child/Yourself" workshop at Bergen County Technical Schools at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 201-343-6000, ext. 3345.

EAST ORANGE—"Fighting with your boyfriend" Syllabus & Syllabus program at East Orange High School at 4:15 p.m. For additional info call 201-673-2193.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

MORRISTOWN—Vacation Auction at the Headquarters Plaza Hotel at 8 p.m. For more info call 201-539-9580, ext. 133.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

PLAINFIELD—Lions Club of Plainfield Annual Pancake Breakfast at 8 a.m. at St. Mary's School. For more info call 908-561-2969.

NOVEMBER 13 THRU APRIL 17

HOBOKEN—Round-trip transportation to Allam City. For more info call 1-800-399-0505.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

PLAINFIELD—"Putting The Fun Into Fund Raising" at the Community Education Center from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. For more info call 908-755-500, ext. 2366.

HACKENSACK—Child Support Paternity and Custody program at Bergen County Technical Schools at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 201-343-6000, x.3345.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

LONG BRANCH—From Tenant to Home Owner seminar at the Long Branch Housing Authority at 6 p.m. For more info call 908-222-3677.

LONG BRANCH—Art Auction at Oceans 20 Restaurant at 7 p.m. For more info call 908-945-2233.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

HOBOKEN—Holiday Crafts Fair at City Hall from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. For additional info call 201-420-2207.

Wendy Reid awarded Peter Small Memorial Scholarship



Wendy Reid (r) accepts the Peter S. Small Memorial Scholarship from Dean of Student Services, Eida Berrio. Photo courtesy of NJIT

NEWARK—Wendy Reid of Newark has been selected as the 1995 recipient of the Peter S. Small Memorial Scholarship at New Jersey Institute of Technology.

The one-year, full-tuition scholarship is presented annually to the student who best exemplifies the life and service of Peter Small, an NJIT student who died suddenly while playing soccer on the campus green on May 11, 1979. The scholarship was established in 1980 to honor Small's life and his numerous contributions to the community.

Scholarship recipients are nominated by university faculty, administrators and students. Candidates must be upper class students, make significant contributions to the minority student body, be in good academic standing and have a financial need.

Peter Samuel Small was very active in his community, working as a volunteer literary teacher and serving as a member of a disciplinary committee for a youth football club. At age 25, Small enrolled as a chemical engineering major in the spring semester of 1975.

He quickly became an integral member of the campus community. His maturity and academic ability made him one of the most valued tutors for the Educational Opportunity Program. Small was also an active member of the Caribbean Students Organization.

He was in the process of completing his final seven courses in order to fulfill graduation requirements by the end of the summer when he died.

"Wendy was chosen for her dynamic, team-oriented leadership style, passion for teaching, and ability to handle multiple projects while maintaining academic excellence. She is an inspiring role model for other students," said Eida Berrio, dean of Student Services.

Reid, a senior majoring in chemical engineering, is active in the campus community. She is past president of the Caribbean Student Organization and a member of the National Society of Black Engineers and the Black Association of Student Engineers.

During the summer, she tutors incoming freshmen in NJIT's Educational Opportunity Program, and since 1992, she has taught Newark-area school children geometry, science and communication skills as a teaching assistant for UMDNJ's Pre-College Program.

Reid has received several awards and scholarships for her achievements including: the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering Scholarship; a Panasonic Scholarship; Sophomore and Junior Dean's Awards; a Career Advancement Plan Scholarship; and was selected as one of 200 students across the country to attend the Georgia Institute of Technology Focus '95 Weekend program.



United opens new parking lot

NEWARK—Cutting the ribbon on United's new parking garage are (l to r) John Dandridge, Jr., president and CEO of United Healthcare System; Arnold Brenner, D.O., director of Nuclear Medicine and president of the medical staff of United Healthcare System; Joan Hunt, past president of NJ State Federation of Women's Clubs and a member of the United Healthcare System Foundation Board of Trustees; and Bernard Rabinowitz, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of United Healthcare System. The new 550-space parking garage will nearly double the amount of on-site parking and offer state-of-the-art security. The completion of the garage marks the first phase of United's building projects which also include a new 122-bed children's hospital on the United campus.

Photo courtesy of United

Michael Hall receives Co-op Education Award



Michael Hall, photo courtesy of NJIT

NEWARK—Michael S. Hall of Newark, (l) was among 18 high achieving students, faculty and staff members recently honored by the New Jersey Institute of Technology Office of Cooperative Education and Internships at the Second Annual Cooperative Education Awards Breakfast held in September. Hall received the Cooperative Education and Internships Student of the Year Award in Electrical Engineering.

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National News

at a glance

PRESIDENT CLINTON NAMES LEON HIGGINBOTHAM TO COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr., a former Circuit Court and Court of Appeals Judge, has been nominated by President Bill Clinton to serve on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Higginbotham, former president of the Philadelphia NAACP and a former commissioner of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, has received over 60 honorary degrees. He retired in 1993 after serving as a Circuit Court Judge and Chief Judge Emeritus of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third District in Philadelphia. He is a member of Antioch College (Ohio) in 1949 and a LL.B. from Yale Law School in 1952.—WASHINGTON, DC

NATIONAL BLACK WEALTH BUILDING CLUB'S ASSETS FROZEN

The struggle of the Better Life Club (BLC) continues in Federal District Court in Washington, D.C., as the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) seeks to shut down its national wealth building programs. Government authorities claim the BLC operation, headed by Robert M. Taylor, has violated SEC laws. The federal government says Taylor's group obtained over \$35 million from more than 11,000 members in a "Ponzi scheme" across the U.S. and Canada. The SEC says the BLC did not register the investment operation and did not have enough assets to pay off \$17.5 million currently owed to investors. To date, Taylor has failed to appear during two court hearings. But members of the BLC claim he has "not breached or broken the law in any way," saying they will keep the BLC going "in order to survive and prosper."—WASHINGTON, DC

BLACK CANDIDATE MAKES LOUISIANA ELECTION RUNOFF

Louisiana voters have chosen for a runoff election the first black candidate for governor since Reconstruction. Rep. Cade Fields (D), the 41st District's Congressman since 1992, will face State Sen. Mike Foster (R) on Nov. 18 after finishing second to Foster in an open primary field that had 16 people running. The general election winner will succeed Gov. Edwin W. Edwards (D), who is retiring. Fields, a 32-year-old African American, captured 19 percent of the 1.4 million votes cast. His Republican opponent, Foster, is 65 and ran first in the polling with 26 percent of the votes cast.

BLACK GROUP DEMONSTRATES AGAINST TRANSFRICA OVER NIGERIA

A group called the Coalition For Fairness To Africa (CFA) recently held a demonstration outside the Washington, D.C. headquarters of TransAfrica, calling for the executive director, Randolph Robinson, to "temper his shrill and strident cry for sanctions against Nigeria and instead support a position of engagement and dialogue towards that African nation." Claiming "Nigeria is not Haiti," where TransAfrica played a significant role in getting the U.S. to re-install Jean Bertrand Aristide back to the office of president, the CFA said the assertion by Robinson that "quiet diplomacy has run its course in Nigeria" is ill-informed and potentially destructive to the continuing quest for democracy in Nigeria. Africa's most populous and ethnically diverse nation. The CFA group is asking TransAfrica and the U.S. government to "focus on the dialogue of fairness and engagement to assist Nigeria in this three-year quest for stability and democracy."—WASHINGTON, DC

MAJOR DRIVE TO REHABILITATE SOUTH AFRICAN TOWNSHIPS

The South African government is to invest close to \$200 million in the

President Clinton calls on Americans to 'clean house of racism'

From National Newspaper Publishers Association

There are those, even some African Americans, who believe racism is dead and buried. However, most African Americans know from the harsh realities of the present social and political environment that racism is still a potent virus in American society. We commend President Bill Clinton for addressing this issue clearly and forcefully in his speech on race relations at the University of Texas on the morning of the Million Man March in Washington.

In his speech, President Clinton was on target in calling for an end to racism in America. The President said, "Recognizing one another's real grievances is only the first step. We must all take responsibility for ourselves, our conduct and our attitudes. America, we must clean our house of racism."

The racial rift between blacks and whites did not evolve overnight. This rift became dramatically clear to all America as a result of the O.J. Simpson trial and the jury verdict. The differences between blacks and whites inherited from the South with the historic passage of civil rights legislation in the 1960's, led by President Lyndon B. Johnson, who was

firmly committed to using the full force of the Federal Government and U.S. Congress to support civil rights and equal opportunities for African Americans.

In the 1968 presidential election, housing became a divisive issue in northern states. In subsequent presidential campaigns, wedge issues revolved around affirmative action quotas, crime, welfare, Willie Horton, and this year affirmative action, again. White opposition to black progress in segments of the American population is deeply rooted in racism.

President Clinton took a courageous step in this year in strongly reaffirming his support for affirmative action, in spite of recent Supreme Court decisions and the political climate of "angry white males."

With Republican conservatives in full control of the U.S. Congress and conservative justices having the balance of power on the U.S. Supreme Court, there is evidence all around us to suggest that the racial climate is worse now than ever. America was not in the 1960's. Many in African-American communities are suggesting that there is a mean spirit reflected in the actions of conservative Republican members of Congress who want to turn the clocks back and return blacks to second class citizenship.

President Clinton offers some good first-step advice on improving race relations. "I ask every governor, every mayor, every business leader, every church leader, every civil leader, every union steward, every student leader—most important, every citizen—in every workplace and learning place and meeting place all across America to take personal responsibility for reaching out to people of different races; for taking time to sit down and talk; through this issue: to have the courage to speak honestly and frankly, and then to have the discipline to listen quietly with an open mind and open heart, as others do the same."

We ask President Clinton to take the lead in beginning this dialogue between whites and blacks. As NAACP Board Chair Myrlie Evers-Williams said in a recent speech before the Anti-Defamation League honoring the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, "If President Clinton can bring together at the White House two traditional, very violent

this dismantling of the EITC to go forward, we tear out the bottom rungs of that ladder, throwing millions of working families from the ascent to an improved future."

The EITC would have provided tax credits of nearly \$23 billion for over 21 million workers and their families in 1996. In replacing the 1993 expansion of the EITC, the Republican proposal would, on average, boost taxes for each EITC recipient by \$302 in 1996. Republican cuts to the EITC will total roughly \$40 billion over seven years.

"Instead of providing millions of working Americans with a helping hand to stay off welfare, Congress is giving them a forceful push away from responsibility and self-sufficiency," Bradley said. And the choice is simple. Do we provide a tax break for a gas pump in front of a convenience store, or a tax credit to a family for gas to heat their home? Do we give tax breaks to the wealthy or give tax credits to families making less than \$30,000 per year?"

Bradley tries to restore funds for Earned Income Credit

WASHINGTON, DC—Senator Bill Bradley (D-NJ) has announced that he will offer an amendment to the Republican Budget Reconciliation Bill, that will restore \$40 billion of the proposed cuts in the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The Bill is set to be considered by the Senate.

"The EITC is an effective, practical tool that provides working Americans the chance to climb the economic ladder to the middle class and build better opportunities for their families," Bradley said. "If we allow

enemies, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, and the warring factions in Bosnia, certainly he should be able to bring together black and white leaders to improve communications, understanding, appreciation of our differences, and race relations in this country." Surely his office should take the initiative to have this dialogue happen. We agree, Mr. President, thank you for the timely speech on what has become a race relations crisis in America. We await your next move.

ADVERTISEMENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
NNPA FACT-FINDING MISSION TO THE REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

As our world continues to come closer and closer together as a global community, we are faced with breaking down the barriers of mistrust, misunderstanding, fear and centuries of prejudice and racism. Even though we all realize its necessity, each of us has a responsibility to make this world a better and more productive place. As members of the media we know, unfortunately, that we all live in a world driven by images that often distort, mislead or misrepresent reality.

The recent Black Press of America delegation to the continent of Africa grew out of our 167-year-old mandate that no one speaks better for Black people than us. As we move further into the Information Age we seek to provide first-hand information to Blacks versus how the white-owned press distorts pictures of Africa with accounts of war, riot, wild animals, and from the loose and continual jungle warfare. We know that only media such as ours, can successfully speak to and for Black people of the world. All too often white-owned media's reports of Africa appear without perspective and cultural insight. As people who are equally at the center of Africa, we believe that honest dialogue and representation must accompany the images we see about the world's second largest continent, one which has 600 million people, represents 12 percent of the global population and covers 22 percent of the world's land area.

With the connections and linkages the Black Press of America is making with similar professionals and organizations in Africa, we have moved to tell the real story about a continent that has been internationally damaged by shallow reporting and horrifying images. Our basic goal is to tell real stories of Africa to Black readers in simple and clear human terms. Our goal is not to drive up television ratings. To the contrary, our goal is to provide Americans, in general, and Black Americans in particular, with an authoritative link to Africa which helps to eliminate negative images that continue to prevent our brothers, sisters, uncles, and aunts and other people of good will from assisting and talking with, and to each other.

Most Black Americans could not point out Nigeria, Zimbabwe or Niger on a map without some consultation with an informed source. We, as the Black Press,

are becoming that source, providing the types of consultation that helps our readers identify the areas from which they came, as well as show with whom they are linked by color and culture. Africa embodies the past, present and the future. Its rich history and culture provides a firm foundation of the present. This foundation is enhancing the transition of traditional Africa to a modern society. The strong sense of family values and dignity in Africa is something urban Americans would do well to know and emulate. Their reverence toward their children is strong. They place education above all else. Youngsters learn the strength of the family. The young are imbued with a sense of duty and respect toward their elders, and each generation is cherished and carries forward the lessons of the past. In Africa, the father walks hand in hand with the past and the present. Unfortunately, in too many American minds stereotypical images of Africa being the "dark continent" cause this country to miss the fact that Africa is a land of civilized people and an extremely important part of the planet's future.

In the future of Africa, and the world, cannot be fully realized without Nigeria. Surely, the emergence of Black people around the world cannot happen without Nigeria and its God-given abundance of mineral resources, soft crude oil, and good lands for fields of food and nourishment. With a population of 100 million people, Nigeria represents one of every four Black Africans and one in five of Black people on the planet. Therefore, a Black Press of America delegation departed for Lagos in the Republic of Nigeria, on Tuesday, September 26, 1995, on a mission designed to be a first-hand look and analysis of the social, political, human rights, and economic situation in what has been labeled a "troubled country," by the general media. In light of the negative images that have been painted of Nigeria, our specific emphasis was on the status and prospects for democratic and free elections, results of the Constitutional Convention and to conduct interviews with citizens and leadership individuals and organizations in that country. With media groups such as CNN, Reuters, Washington Post and New York Times continually making reports that many in America's Black community felt

were offensive and questionable, our collective objectives were to:

- 1) Enable the Black Press to legitimately enter the discussions and reporting on the Nigeria issues;
- 2) Become a positive force resolution of issues in Nigeria;
- 3) Position the Black Press as an influential voice on national and international issues affecting Black people;
- 4) Establish linkages with Nigerian media controlled by Black and people of color;
- 5) To accurately report issues and events transpiring there.

As we were departing for Nigeria, the situation was:

- 1) US/Nigerian relations were at an all-time low;
- 2) New diplomatic sanctions against Nigeria were being called for by some groups, while constructive engagement and dialogue were being called for by others;
- 3) A demand was being made for the release of what were being called "political prisoners";
- 4) It was a country accused by many of being the largest drug trafficker in the world; and
- 5) A country labeled as "in turmoil," and led by a dictatorship on the verge of economic collapse and rife with corruption.

While we were in Nigeria we met with the Head-Of-State, cabinet members, state administrators, local council members, traditional leaders, business people, religious leaders and journalists. Among the people we met were wealthy and mid-class people, and regular working-class individuals. We met people inside and out of government. We met with people in the oil industry, those who till the soil and those who drive taxis and work as civil servants. What we found were:

- 1) People wondering why they were being targeted by the U.S. government in unfair ways;
- 2) People resentful of what they termed "racist" restrictions imposed on them by the United States;
- 3) A group of administrators and government officials eager to talk with anyone in the U.S. ready to talk with them;
- 4) Concessions by Head-Of-State Gen. Sani Abacha toward individuals, who he, and the majority of people interviewed, presented laws that illustrated their documented crimes;
- 5) Laudable efforts to curb what could hardly be 80 percent of the drugs being made available to America's drug users; and
- 6) A country hardly in social turmoil, except for when peddling between whites and take to the streets of Lagos.

We traveled to Lagos, the capital city of Abuja, Kano, Port

Harcourt and Ife. While we will be providing a series of reports on particular subjects through our news service in future, in summary, we found that much of the present, and past, reporting on Nigeria has been unfair and probably racist. We found allegations that 90 percent of the hard drugs consumed in the U.S. comes through Nigeria are not true. The restrictions around drugs imposed by American officials are hardly equitable when viewed along with maintenance of trade, diplomatic ties, and other agreements with known drug supplying countries such as Pakistan, China and numerous South American governments. We found that those governing in Nigeria being labeled in the United States as "the most corrupt and brutal dictatorship in the world" were actually encouraged and installed by a broad-section of Nigerian citizenry, including many who were being held in international jails.

We found startling facts, for instance, Chief M.K. Abacha was one of the principals in encouraging General Abacha to take control of the government. We found that, in reality, General Abacha's military government is hardly the first one in Nigeria's 35 years of independence from colonial rule. That in searching for a way to assure governmental representation of its 200 diverse groups of people, Nigeria's government has been run by military people 25 years of its 35 years as a republic.

We found that had the people who distort the image of Nigeria gone there, as we did, and spoke directly with the people involved, as we did, they would have found that the Abacha regime came to be because the Interim National Government (ING) failed and the military was invited to take power. We found that in a record time of one year the National Constitutional Conference has made a series of resolutions that, hopefully, will satisfy the democratic yearnings of a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural society like Nigeria. We talked with numerous members of the conference.

We found that Nigeria is hardly in economic chaos. The country is one of the only nations in the world where there is no mass begging on the streets. We found no violence on the streets, human rights abuse, universal corruption, nor abuse of power.

What we found were people seeking to dialogue and take to the streets of Lagos. We found that Nigeria surpasses South Africa as America's largest trading partner.

on the African continent. We found that Nigeria is truly a "giant" of a country, almost ready to eclipse countries such as South Korea and Taiwan on the world scene. We found centuries old tradition of African home-grown democratic practice. We found a high, and growing literacy rate, as well as a group of people with whom we could communicate with directly in English. And, we found a lawful society where millions of people are living in peace, except if you insist on condemning the millions of motorists who run traffic jams and lights consistently.

As a concerned group, we wish to say that everyone in America who has an interest in Africa and Nigeria should start to look to the pages of Black newspapers across the country. We are armed with first-hand information about Nigeria and Africa and being free ahead on these issues in a progressive manner. We have formed agreements with the Pan African News Agency (PANNA), the Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ), and others, to bring you more accurate Black and human value and perspectives on issues. We intend to be an authoritative voice on these subjects.

In Nigeria, the government has presented a time-table illustrating that it intends to return the country to democratic rule. Scholars around the world will tell you that every democracy had its teething problems. To this point, Nigeria has had three false starts in emulating foreign democracies, we conclude that we should not impose folly upon folly by trying to impose an alien democracy on that country as some in America demand be done. Let home-grown democracy take place in Nigeria in stages leading up to presidential elections in three years. Is there any sound reason that we shouldn't?

In the minds of the Black media group that accompanied me to Nigeria, we collectively think that the things that can unite us with Nigerians should be pursued with greater vigor than those that divide us."

Delegation was led by President of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), Dorothy R. Leavelle.

EDITORIAL LET AMERICA KNOW

Now that America has heard the feet of more than a million men, let America hear the voice of millions of black Americans as they register to vote.

Let America hear your voice with your selected buying behavior purchasing products and services from those who support the growth and development of your cities and communities.

Let America see your support of your churches, schools, and businesses. Let America see the teamwork and fellowship you have within your community.

Let America know that you expect the same infusion of capital and other services she has provided to her worst enemies in foreign countries.

Let America witness a rebirth of the spirit of your forefathers who gained so much for you to have it lost in recent times.

Let America know the time is now for black people to join in the prosperity of this country and enjoy the fruits of their 400 years of labor.

Letter to the editor

The Million Man March a retrospective/direction

Dear editor:

Two weeks after the Million Man March, New Jersey African Americans are still contemplating its significance. In an effort to provide a prospective, the New Jersey Public Policy Institute (NJPPRI) offers this retrospect from some of our men who attended this historical event. Additionally, we offer one vehicle for responding to the call issued by those million men who participated in the march.

Founded in 1978, NJPPRI, the volunteer non-profit organization seeks to help shape public policy issues that may significantly affect African-American residents of the state. NJPPRI's statewide focus is accomplished through co-operative work with public policy oriented individuals and organizations throughout New Jersey. The organization begins this process of analysis and subsequent policy idea formation by gathering impressions from our community. The following are but a few such impressions:

"The theme of the policy positions taken by the majority of speakers was self reliance and black economic development—rather than traditional government assistance approaches," said Stanley A. Matthews.

"You could have seen the look on the faces of the men, you would have seen the love and determination that we pledged to bring back to our communities. It was a day of sharing and recommendation to bring a leader," said Bill Coleman.

"My own personal struggle, to in some way make a contribution (toward) freedom, justice and equality when linked to this mass assembly at once became affirmed and more powerful," said Jerome C. Harris.

In summary, the challenge now is for each of us to direct this renewed energy and power into meaningful and tangible actions that help to transform our communities and this country. NJPPRI contends that new public policy will be shaped as a result of the Million Man March. Public policy makers cannot ignore the numbers present that day and neither can we.

We invite our community to work with us in further defining and shaping this and other issues into relevant policy statements. The end result will be an even clearer, useable tool for direct address of our mutual concerns. To meet the challenge of enhancing the political power of our people we must focus on actions which make better use of our numbers, our money and our status. Remember the adage, all politics are local.

Guy Gibbs

president of the Board NJPPRI

It was the law, not race

by John L. Burris

The day after the verdict was reached in the O.J. Simpson trial, I had to attend a court case in Sacramento. As I drove back and forth from Oakland, I listened to the radio and what I heard disturbed me greatly, to say the least.

Most of the callers were white, and most were very upset about the verdict. As I listened, I found they were focusing on three major issues that caused them to believe the acquittal of Mr. Simpson was not based on facts and evidence, but was based on race and emotion.

The first area they were concerned with was Defense Attorney Johnnie Cochran's closing remarks, which many of them took to be a blatant appeal to the jury to vote race, not evidence.

The next major source of distress for these callers was the frenzied im-

ages of groups of blacks celebrating the acquittal.

And finally, many were very upset by what they saw as the "non deliberation" of the jury. For them, three hours was not enough time to really give a fair look at all of the evidence in this case.

For them all of this added up to one thing: The jury was predisposed to vote O.J. Simpson not guilty because of racial reasons, and justice was not served. For many of them, this was no different than complaints of all white juries in the South automatically acquitting a white defendant, in a crime against a black victim like the Emmitt Till case, or Civil Rights leader Medgar Evers, no matter what the evidence presented.

There are several very obvious things wrong with this point of view, however. First, the jury was not all black, but a mixed jury. To totally discount the white and Hispanic members of the jury, is to suggest that they had such fear of the nine whites that they caved at the slightest pressure from them. This is an insult to both the black and other jurors, not to mention a profoundly racist way of viewing things.

Second, and this is a major point that is often overlooked, this was not just Johnnie Cochran's jury, as it has been often stated. This was also Marcia Clark and Christopher Darden's jury. They agreed to this jury. And, we should not forget that.

Finally, there is the evidence. The defense was able to dismantle much of the evidence that was put forward by the prosecutors. If that evidence had been more sound and properly presented, it could have without any amount of racial, or gender bias, or allegations of police misconduct re-

FROM CAPITOL HILL

The difference between good and bad separatists

by Asika Muhammad



separatist.

Critics of his uncompromising analysis of American racial politics feel that it is sufficient to simply make the charge against him that he is a separatist, and that is sufficient to determine his guilt. Well, he is a separatist, teacher.

Every edition of *The Final Call* newspaper publishes the column "The Muslim Program," written more than 35 years ago by the Hon. Elijah Muhammad, founder of the Nation of Islam. Here in "the wilderness of North America," "Point No. 90" "What the Muslims Believe" reads as follows:

We believe that the offer of integration is hypocritical and is made by those who are trying to deceive the

black people into believing that their 400-year-old open enemies of freedom, justice and equality are, all of a sudden, their "friends." Furthermore, we believe that such deception is intended to prevent black people from realizing that the time in history has arrived for the separation from the whites of this nation.

If the white people are truthful about their professed friendship toward the so-called Negro, they can prove it by dividing America with their slaves. We do not believe that America will ever be able to furnish enough jobs for her own millions of unemployed, in addition to jobs for the 20,000,000 black people as well.

I for one, stand by that declaration today. So, does the Kerner Commission, and every other racial panel that has been assembled to study American racial problems since then, even if not in those same words.

The Kerner Commission—the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders—after riots swept the nation in 1966, 1967 and 1968, reported in 1969 that the nation was moving "toward two societies, one black and one white, separate and unequal."

Then what is all the fuss about?

I've always believed that separation is better than the unequal segregation we still suffer from, and have absolutely no power to affect. Separation would mean equally sovereign societies, even if most African Americans do not believe that we can ever be equal to white Americans unless we are integrated with them.

Now comes a vote in Canada on a referendum which asks the French-speaking Canadians who live in Quebec to say yes or no to the proposition that the province of 7 million should become sovereign and offer the remains of English-speaking Canada economic and political partnership that has been likened to the European Union.

What's more, the referendum, which was defeated in 1980, just might pass when it is voted on this year. While financial analysts are predicting rain because of the financial instability created by the prospect of negotiating the relationship between the mostly French-speaking and majority English-speaking Canadians, that's about as bad as the condemnation of them gets in the U.S. media.

By comparison, however with black separatists in America, those

white separatists in Canada are the "good separatists," while we are the "bad separatists."

According to one rosy analysis, what the Quebec separatists are after is a "divorce" from the rest of Canada, with continued "bedroom privileges." In America, the notion of black separatism is never analyzed, it is dismissed out of hand, as though anyone loony enough to profess such an idea needs his or her head examined.

The truth is that in America the prospects for black prosperity within the increasingly hostile larger white society are increasingly dim. Why shouldn't African Americans re-negotiate our relationship with whites?

Certainly our situation could not possibly be any worse than under the current arrangement. And therein may be the reason why whites are so emphatic—they just don't want to do any better.

White American society seems to delight in having a class of persons within it, who are permanently disadvantaged—a permanent "underclass," if you will. So, if Min. Farrakhan—like separatists in Quebec, Canada—is for severing that unequal relationship, then I'm with him on that score, 100 percent!

Breaking the slave mentality in African Americans

by Eugene Grant

It is 1995, 376 years since the first of our ancestors were kidnapped from their African homeland and brought to this country as slaves; robbed of their name, languages, religions, cultures and the very essence of their being.

It has been 121 years since the 13th Amendment was ratified ending slavery. So how far have we, people of African descent in this country, come in that time? We are no longer physically slaves, but we still very much live with a slave mentality.

A slave mentality that makes us buy from European American merchants, rather than from our own—when they are selling the same products. A slave mentality that makes us prefer European features over our own African features. A slave mentality that teaches us to know European American history better than we know our own African-American history.

A slave mentality that makes the overwhelming majority of us worship a god depicted in an European image. And a slave mentality that makes the use of the word "nigger"

widespread and seemingly acceptable among African Americans.

Nigger has become so ingrained in our vocabulary that hardly a conversation can occur between two African Americans without the word being used. Unfortunately, among our youth and young adults the word has taken on a form of rebellion.

Let's take a look at the origin of the word. Nigger is a word originally used by slave owners and their agents of the time to describe African slaves and slaves of African descent.

A nigger was uncivilized, a brute or savage, something less than human and barely regarded higher than a dog.

So in order to enslave us and keep us enslaved, we were robbed of everything we had including our humanity and reduced to the role of so-called "niggers."

Today, we have a flourishing culture within American society, yet we refer to ourselves as niggers. Why is

this? Do we really hate ourselves that much? And if we analyze this phenomenon more closely we will find out that it is a self-fulfilling prophecy at best. We are calling ourselves niggers so much that we are beginning to act like niggers—uncivilized and savage.

If someone who is not African American uses the word nigger or calls us nigger, we get offended, we argue and we will even fight. But we think nothing of it when we call ourselves nigger. Where is the logic here? If we do not mind the word so other people won't think that it is an acceptable form of expression.

And as far as I can determine, we are the only group of people in America who so readily refer to themselves by a word that is meant to be demeaning and degrading.

We must always remember one thing though, the word is the invention of our oppressor used to describe us by his standards.

The Kujichagulia (self-determination) principle of the Nguzo Saba which is a moral minimum value system African Americans need to re-construct our history, humanity and daily lives in our image and interest based on the theory of Dr. Maulana Khera, an African American scholar and activist, is slanted as follows:

To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves instead of being defined, named, created, for and spoken for by others.

We are not niggers. We never have been and never will be. Richard Pryor, who used the word nigger very extensively in his comedy routines, told the audience during one of his concerts that he would never use the word again.

He explained that the word was profane and disrespectful and he was going to stop using it because he had too much pride in himself and other African Americans. Every African-American man, woman and child should take a cue from Mr. Pryor and delete the word from their vocabulary.

Where do we go from here?

by Hugh B. Price

O.J. Simpson has been found not guilty by a unanimous jury decision. But what has not been decided is how the looming issue of police brutality and citizens' rights, revealed by the Mark Fuhrman tapes, will be addressed. The potential violations that surfaced include:

- Denial of equal protection of the laws, as evidenced by the apparently harsher treatment of African Americans by local police officers.

- Fabrication of evidence by police in violation of constitutional guarantees of due process of law.

Since the federal constitutional rights of American citizens are still at risk, we the National Urban League, whose constituents and committees must live daily with these indignities, call upon President Bill Clinton to create a national commission immediately to address this crisis in urban law enforcement.

Such a commission's role, as we see it, isn't to conduct a series of hearings across the country, or to engage in endless fact-finding. We dress its mission as much more focused and it's life span sharply limited to, say, 18 months at most.

The commission's charge from the President would be to:

- Gather testimony, evidence, findings and dispositions from relevant grand jury investigations of civilian complaint proceedings and major police-community controversies in recent years which involve apparent or proven police abuse of citizen's rights.

- Ascertain from this reconnaissance whether there are recurring patterns of abuse and, if so, the use of which kinds of police/civilian encounters.

- Analyze the kinds of strategies and tools police departments need to

combat the more violent and sophisticated forms of crime that plague cities these days.

- Issue findings about the nature and extent of the problem of abuse of citizens' constitutional rights.

- Promulgate a model code of police conduct consistent with the U.S. Constitution that should govern their behavior all along the continuum of encounters with citizens—from routine patrol, handling of minor infractions and investigation, to so-called "hot pursuit," detention for questioning, custody, arrest and formal prosecution.

We envision such a commission being chaired by a federal distinguished jurist. The chair would be joined by, among other members,

experts on constitutional law, elected officials, leading representatives of the law enforcement community and thoughtful representatives of community groups and people who live with the problem. This cross-section of members should assure thorough deliberations and credible, useful work products.

The overarching constitutional issues that the presidential commission would address are too important to be left to local police commissions or civilian complaint review boards. They profoundly affect the tranquility and quality of life of America's cities, and thus of the nation. American citizens deserve aggressive federal protection of their constitutional rights against abuse of lawless cops."

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YOUTH BEAT

KIDS CALENDAR

THRU NOVEMBER

MOUNTAINSIDE—Pie-schoolers programs ages 2 and a half to 5 years-olds at Trailside Nature & Science Center in Mountainide Tuesday from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. For more info call 908-789-3670.

THRU NOVEMBER 18

CRANFORD—"Pie-Wee Astronomy" course on Saturdays for youth seven through 10 at Union County College. For more info call 908-709-7600.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

MOUNTAINSIDE—Snake information workshop at Trailside Center from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. For more info call 908-789-3670.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

NEWARK—Hispanic Heritage Month Poetry for Children Program "Cuentos: Tales from the Latino World" at Newark Public Library at 2 p.m. For more info call 201-733-1796.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

NEWARK—Spanish tales from the Caribbean, Spain, South America and Puerto Rico at the Newark Public Library. For more info call 201-733-6462.

SOMERVILLE

"The Tales of Beatrix Potter" at Raritan Valley Community College at 1 p.m., 3:30 p.m., and 6 p.m. For more info call 908-218-8889.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

SOMERVILLE—"Curious George" at Raritan Valley Community College at 1 p.m., 3:30 p.m., and 6 p.m. For more info call 908-218-8889.

THRU NOVEMBER 11

JERSEY CITY—"The Adolescent in Literature" program at Jersey City State University from 8:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more info call 201-200-2120.

THRU NOVEMBER 17

MONTCLAIR—Gifted and talented youth classes at Montclair State University from 8:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more info call 201-855-4104/4280.

Deadline nears

for Presidential Scholarships at Rutgers

NEW BRUNSWICK—New Jersey high school seniors who ranked in the top 10 percent of their class during the junior year are encouraged to apply for Rutgers' Presidential Scholarships. Students who meet the requirements and want to be considered for the 1996 Presidential Scholarships must submit an application for admission to Rutgers by November 15.

The scholarship provides \$5,000 a year and is renewable for three years. To request consideration for the scholarship, applicants to Rutgers' undergraduate colleges must check the appropriate box on the application filed by the November scholarship deadline.

Students who ranked first or second in their class during the junior year are eligible to apply regardless of their SAT scores. High school seniors who did not rank first or second in their class last year may also qualify if they ranked in the top 10 percent of their junior class and have a minimum combined SAT I score of 1350.

Applicants from high schools that do not rank their students must have a 3.4 (of a possible 4.0) grade point average at the end of the junior year to be considered for the award. In addition they must also have a combined SAT I score of 1350 or more.

Application packets include other details and requirements for the award and are available in guidance offices at high schools throughout the state. If unavailable at guidance offices, students can call Rutgers' Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 908-445-3770.

Wrestling program

begins November 6

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Division of Recreation will start its Wrestling Program for the 1995/96 season as of November 6 and will run through from March 27, 1996. Interested participants between the ages of 4 through 14 can register starting November 6, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Old Plainfield High School Wrestling Room.

Registration will continue throughout the season and participants can also register in the Recreation Office in City Hall. Registration fees \$10.00 per child. First practice starts on November 13, and orientation will be on November 17. For further information please contact the Recreation Office at 908-753-3097.

Kenya doll celebrates heritage and pride this holiday season



Kenya's cousins. Above little African princesses are dressed in their tribal regalia. Below, the princesses chill out in casual wear.



MT. LAUREL—The new Toys Kenya doll collection has been increased with all new dolls, fashions, hairplay accessories and playsets that reflect the differences of the African-American community.

This year little girls can celebrate their heritage with Color Me Kente Kenya; Kenya's Cousins, Little African Princesses; and the Fashion Magic Kenya Bed Making Set.

With Color Me Kente Kenya, children can design their own Kente cloth like the Kente clothes worn by West African royalty. They can create a new design with the four special washable markers included and then simply wash the outfit to start all over again.

Color Me Kente Kenya comes

with a removable, washable outfit, washable markers, hair pick, colorful beads and rubber bands and is recommended for girls 4 and up.

Kenya's Cousins, Little African Princesses, are the first line of small collectable dolls that reflect ethnic pride and positive self-esteem for African-American girls. The collection includes six 6½-inch dolls, offered in a variety of different skin tones and hair colors, and featured in elaborate African-inspired dresses.

Each doll comes with a matching contemporary outfit, hair pick, beads, rubber bands and ribbon. They also have a cute good luck charm for little girls to hold. The dolls are also recommended for girls ages 4 and up.

Five Newark students awarded Kraft scholarships

NORTHFIELD, IL.—Kraft Foods, Inc. has announced that five 1995 Newark-area high school graduates will receive college scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each for four years as part of the company's sponsorship of the Kraft Foods Historically Black College Fair program.

Kraft Foods provides grants to deserving students who demonstrate financial need, average or above average academic ability, outstanding community service and enrollment in one of the institutions that participated in the Kraft Foods Historically Black College Fair in Newark.

The students were nominated by their high school principals and inter-

viewed by a committee of public school representatives.

The scholarship winners include: **Diane Pinder**, a graduate of University High School who is attending Morgan State University in Baltimore, MD;

Sadequah Levine, a Malcolm X Shabazz High School alumna attending Howard University in Washington, DC;

Tamika Battle an East Side High School graduate currently enrolled at Benedict College in Columbia, SC;

Ayana Jackson a former University High School student now attending Spelman College in Atlanta, GA;

Khadjah King, a graduate of

University High School who is in his freshman year at Morgan State University in Baltimore, MD.

"At Kraft Foods, we consider America's historically black college and universities national treasures," said Charles L. Reid, the company's director, ethnic external relations.

"We are proud to assist these students on the path to higher learning and hope they will go on to distinguish themselves in a manner that will add to the legacy of these great institutions," he added.

Now in its tenth year, the Kraft Foods Historically Black College Fair program has helped more than 366 minority youths to attend the historically black college and/or university of their choice.

UCC gets youth educational grant

CRANFORD—Union County College has been awarded a grant of \$172,891 by the State Department of Education to establish a School-to-Work Opportunities Initiative for high school students to prepare themselves for post-secondary training.

The training received by program participants will enable them to pursue careers in the engineering technologies. Much of the prospective training will include business and industry partnerships with the college and other participating schools that

will provide hands-on training through jobs and internships at local companies.

Under the grant, the college will build a program with local high schools and post-secondary schools that identifies student career goals and matches part-time, paid internships through the services of a full-time job placement counselor and a full-time, work-based learning counselor.

High school students will be afforded a "seamless" curriculum from

which they may transfer pre-existing skills and knowledge to a related, post-secondary curriculum.

The grant focuses on the engineering cluster including electromechanical technology/computer services/robotics, mechanical engineering technology, and civil/construction engineering technology.

Several local companies and organizations have committed themselves to serving on a School-to-Work Committee to provide workplace training sites for program participants.

New internet site designed for kids

JERSEY CITY—Liberty Science Center and New Jersey On-line have launched the "Yuckiest Site on the Internet," a new concept in using the technological wonders of the World Wide Web to teach science to kids in an appealing fashion.

The "Yuckiest Site on the Internet" uses eye-popping graphics and yucky—yet fascinating subject matter to turn site visitors into science enthusiasts.

"Children are using the Internet in ever increasing numbers and parents have indicated a clear concern about the material to which their children are exposed," said Peter Levitan, president of New Jersey On-line, the most visited New Jersey site on the

Internet. "They're calling for more children-friendly content that is both fun and educational. Yucky will be one of the first sites to address this need," Levitan added.

The first focus of the Yuckiest Site will be cockroaches, where kids will be taken on a tour of the different types of cockroaches who inhabit the world. Future expeditions include the lifestyle of spiders and learning about skin and anatomy through the dissection of a cow's eye.

To get to Liberty Science Center and New Jersey On-line just type up (<http://www.nj.com>) on your computer. For the "Yuckiest Site on the Internet," type (<http://www.nj.com/yucky>).

Crossroads offers expanded education program

NEW BRUNSWICK—This season, Crossroads Theater Company's Community and Education Department is offering two touring productions, matinee performances for youth and children's theater tours, which will reach over 22,000 young people, as well as special forums for teachers.

Crossroads will tour two productions to the communities where the students live and go to school. The productions *The Challenge—Sophia and William meet Chesnut and Twain*, by Karen Jones Meadows, focuses on the lives of two contemporary teenagers who explore the relationship between two turn-of-the-century writers, Mark Twain and Charles Chesnut, a black novelist and writer.

Harriet's Return, also by Karen Jones Meadows, will be the other play on tour. Developed at Crossroads through the 1994 Genesis Festival *Harriet's Return*, a one-woman show about the life of abolitionist Harriet Tubman was produced last March on the Theater's mainstage and adapted for the children's tour.

Study guides have been developed to enable teachers to work with students prior to and following the Matinee Youth Summit performances. The guides include historical information, production histories, information about the play and the playwright.

For booking information, schedules and prices contact Melanie Daniels at 908-249-5581, ext. 15.

The Learning Channel comes to Plainfield



BETHESDA, MD.—The Learning Channel (TLC), cable television's premiere educational network, will be available through Comcast Cable Corporation in Plainfield.

The Learning Channel will allow Plainfield exclusive tours through the human body, life in the eyes of a child, mysteries of the Pacific, the Milky Way and much more.

TLC's prime-time schedule features world-class documentaries on history, human behavior and science.

In addition to offering leisure time learning for adults, The Learning Channel also offers fun time learning for children. The TLC has dedicated its week-day mornings to non-violent, commercial-free programming for preschoolers including the series *Ready, Set, Learn!* which offers entertaining half-hour programs from 6 a.m. to noon that teach two- to six-year-olds the basic concept of reading, social interaction, problem-solving and creativity.

Start the school year off right! Subscribe to YES Magazine

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Mayor James hosts open house for 'Healthy Start for Essex County'

NEWARK— Mayor Sharpe James and Irving Mayor Sara B. Bost hosted an open house for the "AD House" Healthy Start Family Resource Center (FRC) in Newark, a joint effort between the New Jersey Department of Health, the MCH Consortium and the Essex Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies Coalition.

The Family Resource Center is one of two facilities that the HSFE plan to develop, according to Esther Olen, director. HSFE is a federal health initiative to reduce the number

of infants who are dying before their first birthday. Its goal is to lower the infant mortality rate in Newark, Irvington, East Orange and Orange by 20 percent, noted Olen.

According to Mayor James, "the Healthy Start Project for Essex County is a tremendous initiative to save our children and offer pregnant mothers support. By protecting our children we are protecting our future."

Alayne Tyler, executive director of the Irvington neighborhood improvement corporation added "all too

often, women from low-income households do not have the resources to insure successful pregnancy outcomes. I am proud, therefore, to support Healthy Start for Essex County, which provides a comprehensive program of medical, educational, and referral services to those who are most in need."

In 1993, an estimated 1,169 adolescents (19 and under) had babies in Newark and Irvington which accounted for 18 percent of the 6,415 total live births in the two cities. Olen

explained. Babies born to adolescents have higher rates of low birth weight and consequently are 40 times more likely to die in their first year of life.

According to Olen The Healthy Start FRC at AD House has the potential to reach the City of Newark's estimated 1,001 adolescent pregnant women and families and 30 percent of the adolescent expectant mothers in Irvington.

The program will increase access for prenatal care for these individuals, help them to obtain all the necessary

care needed for a positive pregnancy outcome, and raise community awareness about the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle during pregnancy.

Frank Fumal, president of St. Michael's Medical Center and keynote speaker at the event stressed the importance of different agencies collaborating on this important venture.

Len Fishman, commissioner of Health from New Jersey Department of Health commended the HSFE and AD House staff and administra-

tion for their work.

Olen stressed the importance of community involvement in the success of HSFE. "Healthy start believes that everyone in our community has a stake in ensuring a healthy start for our babies."

"We want dads to participate by getting involved with the care of the pregnant mother and the child. Other family members must all realize that the healthy birth of each new baby is a family responsibility and requires support."

Plainfield students

Continued from page A-1

Then the fun began. Homing pigeons were released, soaring high in the sky, exemplifying the endless possibilities of how far a bird can fly with a positive attitude and a serious mission about school. Music blared from the D.J. booth, raring the students to excitement, and preparing them to begin their performance debut.

Students from Plainfield High School, Maxson and Hubbard Middle School, and Cedarbrook, Jefferson, Emerson, Stillman, Cook, Clinton, Evergreen, and Washington Elementary schools organized and performed entertainment with dancing, singing, band playing and cultural performances.

Angie Martinez, on-air personality for WQXT, Hot 97, came along to lend support and instill positive messages about education in the students' minds. Joining her, was Jason Dorsey, the first African-American USA1 Bobblehead. As a special added attraction, Culture Shock, the Nike, Hip-Hop/Funk Dance Troupe, gave an energetic, exciting professional performance.

formance.

Many students came out for different reasons, but they were all unified by one goal, and that was doing something for themselves. "I'm here today, to learn about what other people can do, and when I grow up, I want to be an architect," shared Michael Wiggins of Plainfield High School. Quinn Schenk, also of Plainfield High School added that, "I'm just happy to be here to learn about how my future should be."

Four young ladies, Latice, Wafira, and Yvonne, of Culture Shock, who performed with The Six Ragged Girls from Cedarbrook School, said that the rally was good and a positive thing. These young ladies would like to one day go into business for themselves, with interests ranging from being a fashion designer to owning a beauty salon.

David Grandison, who teaches seventh grade science at Maxson Middle School said, "It was a great rally. I think it's moving to get the kids positively motivated and let them

get together and make all the noise they want, release their energy, get their blood flowing and have fun on a positive wavelength."

Mrs. Smallwood, the city coordinator from Cedarbrook added, "The kids were really excited about it. They've all, already, asked me, when is the next rally?"

The Say "YES" to your Future New Jersey initiative is a three-year pilot program that will serve as a demonstration model for implementation nationally. During the 1995-96 school year, YES Communications will select 15 New Jersey school districts to participate in the Say "YES" to your Future New Jersey Initiative through corporate sponsorship. The rally was coordinated for the Plainfield school system by Doris Williams, principal of Emerson Middle School.

Walk-a-thon

Continued from page A-1

through comprehensive educational assistance for fundraising, educational programs, and technical assistance. The College Fund was founded in 1944 by Frederick D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee University (now University), and 26 other presidents of private black colleges. Today, membership has grown to 41 private, four-year historically black colleges and universities all fully accredited by their regional agencies.

Enrollment has increased from 14,000 students in 1944 to more than 54,000 today. Over a 50-year history, YES institutions have graduated more than 250,000 talented Americans who have gone on to distinguish themselves as scientists, engineers, lawyers, educators, military and political leaders, entrepreneurs, and physicians, strengthening our nation and communities.

Donations can be accepted until

November 6, 1995, toward what New Jersey is doing for The College Fund. Send checks to: UNCF, 24 Commerce Street, Suite 1327, Newark, NJ 07102, or call for more information: (201) 662-1955

What next?

Continued from page A-1

are the directives of Min. Farrakhan."

8) Make a pledge to never call a black woman the "B" word or a black man "MF." "MF" should be removed from the male's vocabulary when there is some type of anger towards his brother and then maybe things can be talked out. It hurts just as bad for the male to be called "MF" as it does for the female to be called the "B" word.

Leo

Continued from page A-1

handcuff the felon.

The children were introduced to Sergeants Pierce and Johnson, along with Deputies Kee and Colbert who will be at their school on an annual basis to advise on how to say no to drugs.

Three prizes were presented to each of the classes of Project 2000 third graders for the top 3 essays. Upon completion of the program, Chief Gibson of the prosecutor's office conducted a swearing-in of the kids as junior law enforcement officers. The program ended with Deputy Kee and the kids reciting the slogan, "Homework is an opportunity for self-improvement."

News

Continued from page A-3

rehabilitation and installation of new township infrastructure throughout the country, the Johannesburg Daily Star has reported. The newspaper quoted a government announcement as saying 614 different projects will be involved in all of South Africa's nine provinces. Local governments will play a central role in coordinating the projects, which include the provision of water, sewerage treatment and removal, electricity, roads, water drainage systems and the rehabilitation and extension of municipal services.

—CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

CASTRO GETS WARME GREETING IN HARM

Although he was not welcome at a reception President Clinton and New York Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani held for heads-of-state from around the world during celebrations for the 50th anniversary of the United Na-

tions, Cuban President Fidel Castro was warmly welcomed "Upstate." Thirty-five years after his last visit to Harlem, where he stayed at the Theresa Hotel on 125th Street, Castro ventured to Abyssinian Baptist Church on West 138th Street. He was greeted there with cheers of "Viva Cuba!" Warmly embraced by Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-N.Y.) and the Rev. Calvin Butts, Abyssinian's pastor, Castro was hailed as "one of the great leaders in the world today." In his speech, Castro rallied against the U.S. embargo on his island, calling it "a senseless atom bomb which kills the people and the children." Many blacks reject the embargo on Cuba, calling it colonialist and an anachronism. David House, an attendee at the Harlem church, said, "I don't see why we need to punish children and sick people in the name of a Cold War that's been over for 10 years."

—NEW YORK, NY

Home heating tips from PSE&G

NEWARK—It takes considerable energy to heat your home, hot water heater and stove. To help you use that energy more efficiently, Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) has some energy-saving measures that can help you save money and protect the environment.

Appliance-buying tips

The next time you shop for a furnace, water heater or heat pump, look for its helpful "EnergyGuide" label. This helps you determine which appliance is less expensive to own and operate in relation to other models in its category.

Using the figures from the EnergyGuide label, you can calculate how long it would take you to recover the money you spend on one model over another. This is called your payback period. To find out the better buy:

- (1) determine the difference in purchase price between two models;
- (2) find the difference in annual operating cost;
- (3) divide A by B. The total is your payback period.

If the payback period for purchasing a more efficient furnace is 15 years, but the average life expectancy of the furnace is 20 years, then the savings over the lifetime of the furnace can be substantial.

When purchasing a new furnace, check its Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE). AFUE is a measure of how efficiently a furnace or boiler supplies heat to your home. A furnace of 80 percent or greater on a boiler of 82 percent or more is ideal.

Also consider the advantages of an automatic setback clock thermostat for your heating system. The clock thermostat will turn the heat down for you automatically when you leave the house or go to bed and turn it up again when you return or awaken.

Locate the heating thermostat on an inside wall, away from heat-producing appliances or cold drafts that may cause the thermostat

to keep the system running even when the rest of the house is warm enough.

Water heater

If your water heater is inadequately insulated, wrap an insulating blanket around it to cut down energy loss. Also insulate the first 15 feet of pipe leading from your unit. Read the instructions on the kit carefully and do not insulate over any doors, vents or relief valves.

Most water heaters are set for 140°F or higher. By lowering the setting to 120°F, you could save more than 18 percent of the energy used at the higher setting. To determine water temperature, draw water from the unit through the bottom faucet and test it with a thermometer.

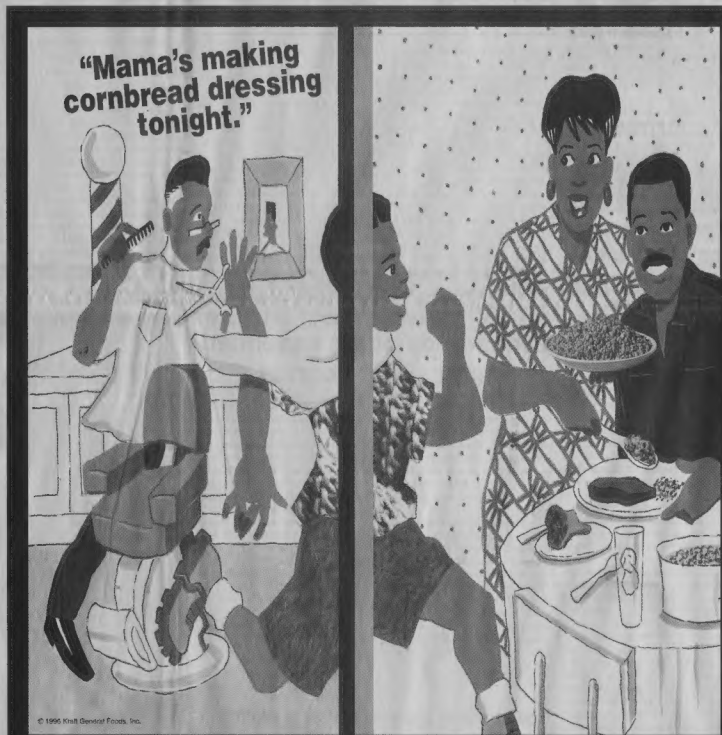
There are a few other easy tips for getting the most from your water heating system. Repair leaky faucets promptly. A steady drip of hot water can waste gallons a week. Installing aerators and low-flow showerheads also helps reduce your demand for hot water.

Dishwashers

If you're buying a new dishwasher, look for energy-efficient models with air power and overnight dry settings. These features can automatically turn off the dishwasher after the rinse cycle and can save up to 10 percent in dishwashing costs. Dishwashers also have an EnergyGuide label on them.

About 80 percent of the cost for operating an automatic dishwasher goes for heating water. You can save much of that by reducing your water heater's temperature to 120°F. If your dishwasher has a temperature booster. Look for models with short cycle selections for lightly soiled dishes. By using less hot water, you'll be saving up to 25 percent of water heating costs.

For more information on how you can save energy on heating, contact PSE&G's Conservation Center at 1-800-854-4444, 24 hours.



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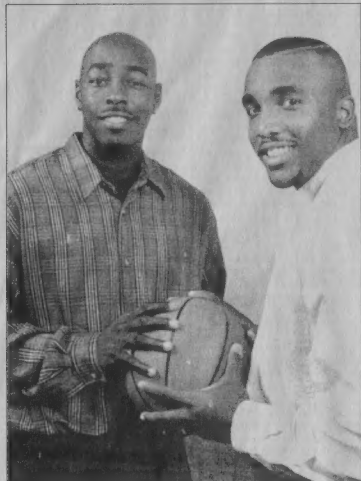
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ARTZ WEDNESDAY

Hoop Dreams to premiere on PBS



Arthur Agee (l) and William Gates (r) pose with a trademark basketball. Photo by Larry Marcus

NEW YORK, NY—The Chrysler Corporation's sponsorship of *Hoop Dreams*, the remarkable true story of two African-American high school students who dream of playing in the National Basketball Association, premieres on Wednesday, November 15, at 8 p.m. (ET) on PBS.

The three-hour television broadcast will be immediately followed by

A *Hoop Dreams* Reunion, a half-hour update which includes never-before-seen footage of William Gates, Arthur Agee, and their families, plus an exclusive interview with the filmmakers.

The award-winning documentary follows the lives of Gates and Agee from the summer after they leave elementary school through their

entry into college. They soon discover that their dreams of glory become obscured amid the intense pressures of academics, family life, economics and artistic competition.

Hoop Dreams began on Chicago's playground courts. For more than five years, filmmakers Steve James, Frederick Marx and Peter Gilbert collected 250 hours of film, conducting

interviews with the young men, their families and friends, eavesdropping on birthday parties and nightly dinners, filming practice sessions as well as basketball games. The result is a rich and complex portrait of two inner-city athletes and their families overcoming enormous odds as they pursue their dreams. (Please check local listings for airtime and time).

Who's doing what at EMI

NEW YORK, NY—BARRIO BOYZZ—from the streets of New York, the Barrio Boyzz showcase their crossover roots with *How We Roll*, their English language follow up to two platinum Spanish language albums *Dondequiera Que Estes* and *Una Vez Mas*. The two albums have yielded five Billboard Hot Latin Tracks, chart his including *Cerca E Ti* and *Dondequiera Que Estes* (a duet with Selena) which spent a combined three months at #1. *How We Roll* is now available in stores and includes the production writing credits of Darryl Simmons (Boyz II Men, Toni Braxton) and Peter Moran (R. Kelly, Aaliyah, Mass Order, Adina Howard).

SELENA—The recent release of the late singer Selena's *Dreaming Of You* album has spawned overwhelming worldwide response by debuting on the Billboard Top 200 chart at #1. This marks Selena as the second fastest selling female artist in music history and places her among the Top 10 debut pop albums of all time.

NAJEE—His latest project is the ultimate interpretation of Stevie Wonder's *Songs In The Key Of Life* featuring himself, Stanley Clarke, Herbie Hancock, Ray Parker, Jr. and produced by George Duke.

Comedy concert to aid Newark's homeless

NEWARK—Good Will Home and Missions, Inc., Mercy Health Plan of New Jersey and the Friends of Newark Comic Relief are hosting the Seventh Annual, "VIP Reception, Auction and Comedy Concert '95" in support of the division of the Newark Homeless Health Care Project (NHHCP).

The event will take place in the Terrace Room of Symphony Hall on Wednesday, November 8 at 5 p.m. Also known as "Newark Comic Relief," the fundraiser will coincide with the national "Comic Relief" produced by the Home Box Office (HBO) network, organizers said. The event will benefit the healthcare project which is celebrating its 10th anniversary of providing care to the Gateway City's homeless.

The evening will kick off with a VIP Reception and Auction, followed by a two-hour comedy concert featuring HBO comedy talent Michael Colyar, Derrick Fox and Willie Asbury, as well as other well-known local comedians. Last year, local efforts by the Friends Committee added more than \$10,000 to the monies garnered by the national project.

Other sponsors include: Cablevision of Newark, New York Comedy Nights at the Peppermint, Public Service Electric & Gas Matsumoto Electric (Panasonic) Corporation of America, Nicola Entertainment Group, Inc., Alpha Presentation and Tina Graham, Inc. For more information, please call 1-800-934-3288.

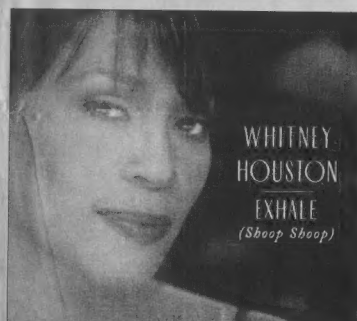
Arista records releases Waiting To Exhale Soundtrack

NEW YORK, NY—Arista Records will release the *Waiting To Exhale* soundtrack album to hit stores on November 14. The record features an unprecedented powerhouse lineup of music's hottest "divas." Whitney Houston (who also stars in the film), Toni Braxton, Aretha Franklin, Mary J. Blige, TLC, Brandy, Chaka Khan, Patti LaBelle, Faith Evans, SWV, CeCe Winans, Shanna, For Real, Chanté Moore, and Sonja Marie.

The album was written and produced by Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds, who wrote 14 new songs plus the score for the film. The first single, *Exhale (Shoop, Shoop)*, performed by Whitney Houston is a warm, graceful ballad that summarizes the overall theme of the film and its soundtrack.

Houston commented, "Whenever Kenny and I get together, it clicks—it works—it's magic! All the songs on the soundtrack speak of the friendship of the four ladies in the film. An equally talented group of ladies are on the soundtrack and I'm just so glad they agreed to do it!"

"Babyface" has made pop history as both an artist and writer/producer with his impeccably crafted explorations of romance and relationships which have left an indelible imprint



on the evolution of rhythm and blues throughout the world. His numerous awards include three Grammys, BMI and Billboard's #1 Pop and R&B Songwriter of 1994, as well as last year's "Soul Train" Music Award for Album of the Year *The Cool in You*.

On assembling this all-star female cast for the soundtrack, he ex-

plained, "The film was written from a female perspective, so it felt quite natural to have all the music written for and performed by women. What makes the soundtrack unique, though, is the diversity of female artists... This is one of those once-in-a-lifetime opportunities that you dream about as a songwriter/producer."

Eubie Blake to be inducted into NYU Musical Theater Hall of Fame

NEW YORK, NY—The New York University Musical Theater Hall of Fame will honor ragtime composer Eubie Blake and five other musical theater stars during a gala musical celebration, on Monday, November 13, at The Frederick Loewe Theater at NYU.

Eubie Blake, one of ragtime's most famed composers and performers, had enormous influence on the musical theater and jazz arts forms as they developed in the first half of the century. Singer and lyricist Nobel

Sissle and Blake's collaboration, which lasted from 1915 to 1975, introduced many memorable shows and songs to the Broadway stage and include the ground-breaking *Shuffle Along*, the first successful all-black musical.

The celebration scheduled to begin at 5:45 p.m. will be co-hosted by Dr. L. Jay Oliva, president of NYU, and Tony award-winning actress Phyllis Newman.

Other Hall of Fame inductees include: Harold Arlen, composer of

Earl Carroll's *Vanities*, *That Old Black Magic*, *Stormy Weather* and *Over the Rainbow*, for which he received an Academy Award.

Leonard Bernstein, his unsurpassed legacy as a composer, conductor, pianist, author and educator, places him among the most influential musical artists of the 20th century. Bernstein's Broadway credits include *West Side Story*, *Wonderful Town*, *Candide*, *Peter Pan* and *On the Town*.

Lorenz Hart, producer of the Broadway shows *Dearest Enemy*, *Betsy*, *Peggy Ann*, *A Connecticut Yankee* and *Simple Simon*.

Jerome Robbins, whose long and illustrious career in the theatre and dance also marked the rise of an important new player on Broadway—the director/choreographer. His Broadway triumphs include *Peter Pan*, *Bells Are Ringing*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, and *West Side Story*.

Burton Lane, one of Hollywood's most prolific and gifted songwriters, has left an indelible mark on Broadway history, lending his prodigious talents to such classics as *Fanny's Rainbow* and *On A Clear Day You Can See Forever*.

For additional information call Joam Dim at 212-998-6849, or Kim Brockway, 212-998-6796.



Dead Presidents release draws big stars

NEW YORK—At a recent after party, film actress N'Bushe Wright and Capitol recording artist, Tracie Spencer celebrated the opening of the New York Film Festival release of *Dead Presidents*. The success of the film and soundtrack have been phenomenal. After three weeks of the release of the *Dead Presidents* soundtrack, the album is number five on Billboard's "Top R&B Album" and number 26 on the "Billboard 200" charts. The movie remained in the number three position at the box office for two consecutive weeks. The soundtrack to *Dead Presidents* is currently in stores.

'Mambo King' comes to MSU



Tito Puente

MONTCLAIR—If you love the energy and rhythm of Latin music, you'll love Tito Puente. With a style all his own and a legion of fans throughout the world, Tito Puente has become known as the "Mambo King."

The legendary band leader will bring his Latin Jazz Ensemble to Montclair State University on Saturday, November 4, in Memorial Auditorium. The show begins at 8 p.m. Puente holds many titles besides king. He's Grammy Award winner, drummer, percussionist, composer, conductor and arranger.

The concert is just one of the highlights of the MSU School of Fine and Performing Arts' Great Events Series, which offers a festival of culturally diverse programs and family entertainment.

Other upcoming events in the Great Events Series include *The Nutcracker*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Preservation Hall Jazz Band* and *The Wizard of Oz*. Tickets for the Tito Puente Latin Jazz Ensemble are \$30 general admission and \$25 for students and

Let
ARTZ WEDNESDAY
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BILLBOARD

THRU NOVEMBER 12
NEW BRUNSWICK—The Piano Lesson at Crossroads Theatre. For more info call 908-249-5560.

THRU NOVEMBER 25
MONTCLAIR—"Shine On" art exhibit at Montclair State University. For more info call 201-655-7640.

NOVEMBER 1 - 18
WATCHUNG—"Imaging New Jersey" exhibit at the Watching Arts Center. For more info call 908-756-0190.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2
NEW YORK—Jazz Talk at Lincoln Center at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 212-721-6550.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3
WATCHUNG—King's Road Swing Band at Watching Arts Center at 8 p.m. For more info call 908-753-0190.

NOVEMBER 3 - 18
FANWOOD—"The Glass Menagerie" at the Philadelphia of Fanwood. For more info call 908-322-6666.

NOVEMBER 3 - 12
BROOKLYN—"Dick Gregory Live: On The Great White Way" at the Bibo Holiday Theater. For more info call 718-

636-09189

NOVEMBER 3, 10, 17
HOBOKEN—"Music Among Friends" event at the City Hall. For more info call 201-420-2207.

EAST ORANGE—Gil Scott-Heron at Brokers Entertainment Complex at 8:30 and 11:30 p.m. For more info call 201-678-8800.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4
MONTCLAIR—Trio Puente Latin Jazz Ensemble at 8 p.m. at the Montclair State University. For more info call 201-655-5112.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5
NEW BRUNSWICK—Tea for Two: A Victorian Garden Party, a fall auction and tea to benefit the New Brunswick Theater at 4 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency. For more info call 908-846-2895.

NEW YORK—Jazz Sunday Brunch featuring The Roy McJannet Trio on the World Yacht. For more info call 212-630-8100.

WAYNE—Joe Williams joins the Peterson College Jazz Ensemble at 4 p.m. at William Paterson College. For more info call 201-595-2371.

Crossroads awarded grant to produce Rita Dove's First Play

NEW BRUNSWICK—Crossroads Theatre Company has been awarded a grant from The Fund for New American Plays to produce former U.S. Poet Laureate and Pulitzer Prize-winner Rita Dove's first play, *The Darker Face of the Earth*. The play, which Crossroads will produce in conjunction with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, is scheduled for production in the fall/winter of 1996.

"The Fund's involvement with Crossroads and Rita Dove on this extraordinary new play is exciting for all of us," said Lawrence Wilker, President of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, one of the three founding partners of the Fund for New American Plays.

Crossroads is one of four theatre groups to receive the grant totaling \$290,000, to produce new plays. *The Darker Face of the Earth* was first presented at Crossroads as a staged reading during the 1995 Genesis Festival, a two-week festival of readings, workshops and community events that takes place at the end of every Crossroads mainstage season. The play had previously been read at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and

the Round House Theatre in Silver Springs, Maryland.

In the play, Rita Dove reinvents the ancient traditional form of the epic verse drama. The play is an exploration of the effect on human beings of American politics, racism, and ultimately, fate. Dove uses the Greek Oedipal theme and structure of Greek tragedy to examine these aspects of our society, setting the story on a Southern plantation during the slavery era.

Augustus, a new, "mulatto" slave, arrives on Miss Amalia's plantation full of the venom of revolt. Augustus and Amalia, unaware that they are mother and son, embark on a sexual relationship. A slave uprising brings Augustus, the leader of the planned revolution, face to face with the painful truths of his identity, forcing him to make a difficult choice between political and personal allegiances.

"It has been very rare for a poet to take center stage in American theatre," said Sydney Mahone, Crossroads' Director of Play Development. She added, "Not since Crossroads Associate Artist Ntozake Shange's aesthetically revolutionary choros in response to Marley's desire to become an American R&B star, Sims assembled some of the absolute best American-based studio musicians of that time to participate in making Marley's dream a reality. Featuring artists from Aretha Franklin's band, folks like Richard Tee, Eric Gale, even Hugh Masekela, 'Soul Almighty' introduces the world to a completely untouched dimension of Marley's

See DOVE/PAge D-6

Soul Almighty: Bob Marley in the '60s

A compilation of never-before-heard Marley works coming soon

LOS ANGELES, CA—Danny Sims, President/CEO of Anansi Records is preparing to release a new collection of Bob Marley material unlike anything ever heard before. Sims and Johnny Nash, who together are credited for Marley's success as both a musician and a performer, handled Marley's career from 1967 to 1972. During this period, they, along with Marley, recorded approximately 200 songs, 49 of which have been locked in vaults until now.

Entitled *Soul Almighty*: Bob Marley in the '60s, Sims' new project features four tracks whose very titles have never been revealed to the public. More important, this endeavor aesthetically highlights a profound historical landmark in Marley's career that until this day has never been thoroughly explored or documented. During this period, according to Sims, "Bob wanted desperately to be a hit on the American R&B charts. He deliberately wanted to make a sound that would get played on African-American radio. Unfortunately, at that time nobody wanted to hear anything from Marley, so I've kept these productions under lock and key since the late '60s."

In response to Marley's desire to become an American R&B star, Sims assembled some of the absolute best American-based studio musicians of that time to participate in making Marley's dream a reality. Featuring artists from Aretha Franklin's band, folks like Richard Tee, Eric Gale, even Hugh Masekela, 'Soul Almighty' introduces the world to a completely untouched dimension of Marley's



The late Hon. Robert Nesta Marley

musical career.

'Soul Almighty's' unearthed treasures include: "What Goes Around Comes Around (the album's first single), 'Splash for My Splash, You Say I Have No Feelings' and 'Fallin' In and Out of Love. The remainder of the album includes some of Marley's most precious alternate soul mixes from the late '60s.

To be released the first week in January 1996, *Soul Almighty* is the debut LP in a series of at least four collections that Sims will distribute through Alliance Entertainment Corp.

In addition, Sims plans to follow this effort with a literary account of Jamaica's struggle for independence, a CD-ROM, a CD-PLUS (to be released on Marley's birthday February 6) and a series of documentary films designed to place the music in context with Jamaica's social and political history.

A soulful season's greeting from Luther Vandross



well as his show-stopping renditions of three timeless classics: *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*, *My Favorite Things*, and *O Come All Ye Faithful*.

For the recording of *This Is Christmas*, Vandross was joined by several close musical friends including Darlene Love, who duets with him on *I Listen For The Bells* (also featuring a powerful sax solo by Clarence Clemons of Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band); Cissy Houston, who adds her beautiful backup vocals to the title track; Valerie Simpson, and Richard Marx, co-writer with Vandross of the moving *Every Year, Every Christmas*.

Other highlights include the pulsating album opener *With a Christmas Heart*; *Please Come Home For Christmas*, a Vandross vocal Valentine to be opened on December 25; *Mistletoe Jam*, a funky, rock-around-the-Christmas-treat; and the warm and wonderful *A Kiss For Christmas*.

NEW YORK, NY—Grammy Award-winning superstar Luther Vandross is ready for the holiday season with his new Epic album, *This Is Christmas*, released October 24. The album features seven new Christmas songs written or co-written and produced by Vandross, as

A Motown Christmas Carol captures the spirit

LOS ANGELES, CA—Motown Recording artists have come together to record a collection of classical Christmas songs entitled *A Motown Christmas Carol*.

The album contains The Jackson 5's *Santa Claus Is Coming To Town*, I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus, *Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas*, and *Frosty The Snowman*; Stevie Wonder's *Silver Bells*; Ave Maria, *The Christmas Song*, *What Christmas Means To Me*, and *Someday At Christmas*; The Miracles' *Winter Wonderland*, Smokey Robinson & The Miracles' *Jingle Bells*, *Deck The Halls*; *Bring A Torch, Jeanette, Iabella and Away In The Manger*; *Conventry Carol*; The Temptations' *Rudolph The Red-*

Nosed Reindeer, *The Little Drummer Boy* and *Silent Night*; and The Supremes' *White Christmas*, *Joy To The World* and the previously unreleased *Oh Little Town Of Bethlehem*.

Also contained are spoken Christmas greetings from Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson and The Temptations' Eddie Kendricks.

The volume is culled from such Motown Christmas albums as *The Miracles' Christmas With The Miracles* (1963); Smokey Robinson's *The Season For Miracles* (1970); The Supremes' *Merry Christmas* (1965); The Temptations' *Christmas Card* (1970); and Stevie Wonder's *Someday At Christmas* (1967).



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FOX THURSDAY NIGHT

LIVING SINGLE

Guess who's gettin' hitched?
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THE CREW

The glitter. The glamour. The attitude.
Tonight, The Crew takes on Timesdown!
Guest-starring Fabio and an all-celebrity cast!

IT ALL STARTS AT 8PM/7

NEW YORK UNDERCOVER

New York's hottest models are drowning in a world of sex, drugs and murder.
Tonight, J.C. goes undercover in a business where looks can kill.

ON FOX

Check local listings for your FOX station.

HEALTH CALENDAR

MONTHLY

UNION—HIV/AIDS—Cancer support group every 2nd and 4th Thursday at Union Hospital GRAND Center at 7 p.m. For more info call 908-686-3117.

THRU NOVEMBER 14

RAHWAY—Diabetes Education Series at Rahway Hospital for outpatients. For more info call 908-499-6056.

THRU NOVEMBER 19

BASKING RIDGE—Flu shots at Visiting Nurse Association of Somerset Hills. For more info call 908-647-5258.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

MONTCLAIR—Fitness Rehabilitation Success for Women program at Montclair State University at noon. For more info call 201-655-5114.

CRANFORD—Wellness Now! day long program at Union County College. Pre-registration is required. For more info call 908-708-7603.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

NEW BRUNSWICK—Diabetes health fair, educational materials and programs at the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more info call 908-927-8555.

BEGINNING NOVEMBER 3

CRANFORD—Pre-Adolescent Interviewing for Probation Release Education Program at 15 Alden St. For more info call 908-272-0303.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

NEWARK—Free diabetes eye and foot exam at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more info call 201-926-7160.

PLAINFIELD—Free Open House Foot & Eye Screenings and lectures at the Diabetes Center of New Jersey from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. For more info call 908-668-2575.

TOMS RIVER—Free Diabetes Update, New Treatment, Research & Nutrition Seminars program at Tom's River Medical Center from 9:30 a.m. to noon. For more info call 908-349-7577.

JACKSON—Free Holiday Menu Planning For Diabetes program at The Family Health Connection at 2 p.m. Registration required. For more info call 908-349-5787.

EAST ORANGE—What everyone should know about diabetes program at East Orange General Hospital from 9 a.m. to noon. For more info call 201-414-1860.

TOMS RIVER—What's This Pill For? program at 2 p.m. Registration required. For more info call 908-349-5757.

RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

NEW BRUNSWICK—Three-day conference on Christian women's preaching at Rutgers University. For more info call 908-932-8701.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

WEST LONG BRANCH—Prison Fellowship Ministry Annual Luncheon at Squire's Pub at 11:30 a.m. For more info call 908-291-1061/1015.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

BAYONNE—Annual Fellowship celebration at the Evangelical Gospel Tabernacle. For more info call 201-658-1259.

ASBURY PARK—Women's Day Praise in Song Service at St. Stephens AME Zion Church at 4 p.m. Volunteers and attendees being sought. For more info call 908-542-8677 or 774-4010.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

JERSEY CITY—Religious Series lecture at Hudson County Community College at 11:15 a.m. For more info call 201-714-2107, ext. 018.

DECEMBER 1-3

ASBURY PARK—Tambourines to Glory by Langston Hughes at Saint Augustine's Episcopal Church. For more info and times call 908-774-3069.

Prostate Cancer screening at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital

NEW BRUNSWICK—It is estimated that prostate cancer will strike one in 11 men this year, and among men of African-American descent the incidence is even higher. As a form of prevention, a free prostate cancer screening for men is being held at the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital on Wednesday, November 8 from 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Ambulatory Care Building, Level 1, Suite C.

As with all cancers, early detection is the key to helping ensure favorable outcomes. To qualify for the screening, men should be over the age of 50 and not have had a prostate exam in the past year. Younger men (age 40) will qualify only if there is a history of prostate cancer in the family.

To participate in the screening should call 908-937-3798 or 908-247-2050 to register for an appointment.

The screening involves a clinical examination of the prostate and a Prostate Specific Antigen blood test performed by a board-certified urologist.

Newark mayor opposes White Castle construction

NEWARK—Newark Mayor Sharpe James again voiced his opposition to the decision of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Essex County Division for "paving the way" for the construction of a Newark-based parking lot for the new White Castle restaurant being built in Irvington.

Mayor James vowed that the

Newark Department of Law would use every legal measure possible to fight the development project. The Superior Court's decision is currently under appeal by the Appellate Division, Newark Law Department officials noted.

"As Mayor," James said, "I am extremely angered and saddened by the New Jersey Superior Court's ruling. The decision, reversing the New-

ark Central Planning Board's denial, was improper and unthoughtful, to say the least."

He continued, "The ruling by the Planning Board to deny a request for a 20-space parking lot to accommodate the White Castle restaurant on Lyons Avenue and Stecher Street (on the Irvington border), was indeed wise and prudent."

According to the Central Planning Board, the project also would be hazardous because it would not be able to accommodate the amount of generated traffic and is too close to the community's nearby residential area.

Additionally, a 24-hour Pathmark Supermarket is located across the street from the proposed parking lot, generating late-hour traffic, officials pointed out. There also is traffic from the nearby ramp for Route 78.

Mayor James added, "The Superior Court also should have considered the extreme, numerous and well-documented problems associated with the White Castle restaurant on Elizabeth Avenue in Newark. The sale of illegal drugs, teen vio-

lence, loud excessive noise and the harassment of law-abiding patrons, as well as other criminal behavior have long plagued this notorious, late-night establishment.

The Mayor concluded, "These illicit and destructive activities have been devastating to the peace, safety and well-being of private citizens and businesses in that Newark neighborhood."

"Any rational person would object to the placement of another such establishment in their neighborhood. Therefore, I urge the Garden State judicial system to correct this travesty and block yet another major source of trouble and urban blight in the Newark community."

Black Adoption Consortium receives \$50,000 grant

PENNSAUKEN—The Black Adoption Consortium, Inc. (BAC), has recently been awarded a two-year \$50,000 per year statewide training grant called "Skills Enhancement for Changing Times."

The grant was awarded to extend a two-year minority recruitment project entitled "Raise Our Sons to Save Our Men, Adopt!"

According to BAC Executive Director Sandra Lawrence, no other specialized adoption agency in this area has ever received three federally funded opportunities simultaneously.

"We are eager to begin the project which opens up training opportunities to school educators, mental health practitioners, social workers, families, churches, and community based organizations," says Kythia Roberts, board president.

In addition, BAC has successfully completed one year of a two year post adoption services grant recently received at \$100,000.

According to Project Consultant Dr. Joseph Crumley, a nationally renowned child welfare therapist, BAC is one of only seven such awarded projects in the country. Several months

ago, BAC experienced a severe cash flow and funding crisis. "It was the bleakest time in our short four-year history," says Lawrence. "BAC is just entering its fifth year and we realize that growth and turbulence go hand in hand while in the incubator stage. We are not totally out of the woods yet, but certainly well on the way."

November is National Adoption Awareness Month. If you or someone you know is interested in adopting a child or would like to make a contribution to BAC contact 1-800-552-0222.

NBA kicks-off stay-in school campaign

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Emphasizing the importance of student responsibility to succeed in school, NBA players, coaches, former players, mascots, team broadcast announcers, and other team representatives will visit schools throughout the country, celebrating the fifth annual NBA "Stay in School Awareness Day" on Wednesday, November 1.

All 29 NBA teams will participate in assemblies and discussions with students on the importance of education, youth violence prevention and other issues facing young people. Assembly speakers will use

the acronym RESPECT to encourage students to succeed in and outside of school. The acronym stands for:

Resolve conflicts without violence
Effort in education
Set short and long term goals
Positive attitude
Earn and give respect
Community service
Think before you act

"The NBA is committed to supporting programs dedicated to improving the personal development of young people," said NBA Commissioner David J. Stern. "NBA teams, coaches and players realize that they can use their unique influence to highlight the im-

portance of education," Stern added.

The NBA Stay in School program was created in 1989 to address the high school dropout problem. It has developed into a multifaceted education initiative utilizing NBA players and coaches to positively influence young people and increase interest in school.

Basketball Hall of Famer and eight-time NBA All-Star Bob Lanier serves as the Stay in School Chairman. Former NBA stars Harvey Catchings, Frank Johnson and Calvin Murphy join Lanier as program spokesmen.

For more information on the Stay in School program in your local community, contact Sandra Haley of the NBA at 212-607-8711 or the individual team community relations representative.

Mt. Zion A.M.E. hosts World Community Day

PLAINFIELD—Mount Zion A.M.E. Church, located at 525 West Fourth Street, will hold a World Community Day on Friday, November 3 at 1:30 p.m. This year's theme is "Preserving the Fruits of God's Labor." World Community

Day is a celebration of children. The service embraces the broadest definitions of family in an effort to enable mothers, step-mothers, daughters, grandmothers, aunts and all who are friends of children, to grow in mutuality.

East Orange YMCA offering swim programs

EAST ORANGE—The East Orange YMCA will be offering Youth and Instructional swim lessons from beginning Monday, November 6 through December 30. The Youth Beginner class will be held on Mondays from 6:10 to 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 to 11 a.m. Advanced Beginner class is scheduled for Saturdays from 9 to

10 a.m. with Pre Beginner class on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to noon, for 3-5 year olds.

Adult Advanced Beginner class will be held on Tuesdays from 6:10 to 7 p.m. and the beginner class is held from 7 to 8 p.m. For information on the YMCA Aquatic Programs and other programs call 201-673-5588.

MCCHC receives state grant to aid Latino affairs

NORTH BRUNSWICK—The Middlesex County Cultural Heritage Commission (MCCHC) is continuing a three-year project to address the needs of Latino residents in Middlesex County recently received a \$19,000 grant under the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State's (NJSCA) funding category—Local Underserved Communities Initiative.

Instituted by The National Endowment for the Arts, Local Underserved Communities Initiative funding is designated for organizations whose project is specifically geared to services for disadvantaged populations.

Working intently with the Center for Latino Arts and Culture, Rutgers University, the Commission and the Cultural and Education Long Range Plan Task Force have earmarked the grant money to hire staff toward the implementation of a long range plan, as developed by the Task Force, through focus group sessions, a pub-

lic survey and hundreds of planning hours.

The Long Range Plan will include identifying a neighborhood center location and publication of a Latino calendar of celebrations and events, an overview of the community being served, the methodology, principles and strategies to be implemented, ultimate goals, objects, timeline and resources.

The Task Force determined its target population based on information gathered from a 1990 county-wide cultural planning process, findings of the Center for Hispanic Policy/Research and Development which documented a 30 percent increase in the Latino population of Middlesex County since 1980, with 8,000 Latino residents among the 40,000 persons in New Brunswick, and the direct input of Latino leaders in New Brunswick who noted the lack of cultural opportunities specific to the traditions of their community.



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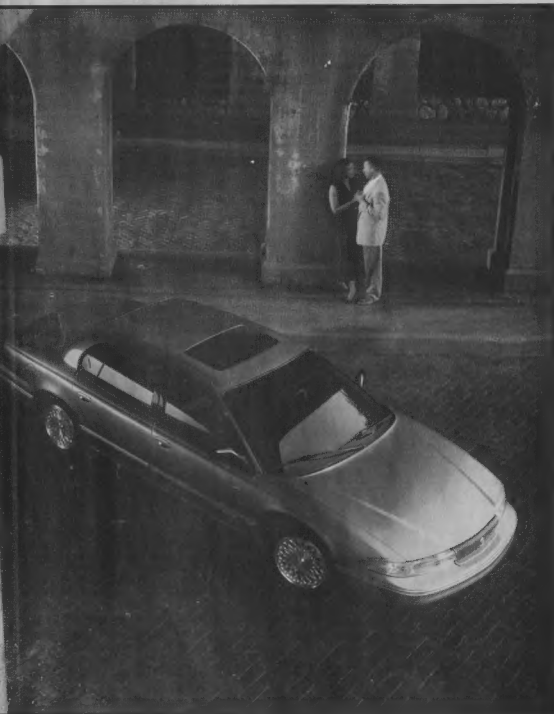
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BUSINESS

Financial Federation focuses on assisting African Americans



William Jackson, CEO

ATLANTA, GA—The Federation of Financial Institutions, LLC (The Federation) a minority owned mortgage banking company, has announced that it will focus on assisting African Americans and other minorities who have experienced difficulty in obtaining mortgage loans.

According to William Johnson, chairman and CEO of the Federation, "Nationwide there is a critical lack of minority participation in the mortgage banking industry. It is widely believed that a minority-owned mortgage banking firm, complete with retail, wholesale, correspondent and servicing operations, would have a

distinct business advantage, particularly throughout urban communities and with minority owned real estate and mortgage broker firms."

Headquartered in Westchester, IL, with regional offices in Princeton, NJ and Atlanta, GA, The Federation currently provides loan administrative services for the Federal National Mortgage Company, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, the Government National Mortgage Corporation, the Federal Housing Administration and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

"We concentrate largely on affordable housing issues and particu-

late in various federal, state and local bond programs which offer reduced interest rates and expanded qualifying guide lines to first time and low income borrowers," states Roger Pinnix, executive vice-president, director of finance and acquisitions.

Several of the mortgage programs available through the Federation that address affordable housing issues include:

Start-Up Mortgage

The standard Start-Up Mortgage is a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage for which borrowers make interest-only payments the first year. This product is well suited to borrowers who are good credit risks, but who need assistance in qualifying for a mortgage because of lower incomes.

The Fannie 97

The Fannie 97, a Community Home Buyer's Program Mortgage, is designed to help low- and moderate-income borrowers overcome the down payment barrier to home ownership. The Fannie 97 is targeted to low- and



Roger Pinnix executive VP and director of finance and acquisitions

moderate-income home buyers who are able to handle monthly mortgage payments, but who may have trouble raising down payment and closing costs.

Farmers Home Administration Rural Housing Loans

See FEDERATION/page B-6

President signs legislation increasing SBA loan capacity

WASHINGTON, DC—President Bill Clinton signed the Small Business Lending Enhancement Act of 1995 into law last month, allowing the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to boost the Agency's total loan volume to as much as \$12.6 billion under SBA's primary loan program, while saving taxpayers more than \$100 million.

"This is a great step forward for small businesses and for the SBA," said SBA Administrator Philip Lader. "This new law enables SBA to guarantee up to \$33 million in additional small business loans per day at no additional cost to the taxpayer."

As a result of the changes, SBA will be able to guarantee as much as \$12.6 billion in small business loans with an appropriation of just \$133 million. Under the previous formula, it would have required an appropriation of more than \$345 million to finance the same amount of loans. The actual appropriation for the loan program has not been set.

The Small Business Lending Enhancement Act of 1995, includes important elements of Vice-President Gore's National Performance Review

and of the SBA's own reinvention proposals. The new law:

- Revises the fee structure for the 7(a) General Business Loan Guarantee program so that the small businesses that benefit from the program will pay a larger share of its costs.

- Reduces guaranty percentage levels so that participating private sector lenders share a greater part of the risks of loan default.

- Requires that SBA lift the \$500,000 limit and the ban on loan refinancing that were put in place during the past year to deal with a shortage of funds for the loan program.

- Adds a small fee (0.125 percent per year) to the 504 Certified Development Company Loan Program in order to enable that program to operate without a taxpayer subsidy.

The new law preserves a two percent guaranty fee for 7(a) loans under \$100,000, which—as a result of the LowDoc program—amounted to about 65 percent of SBA loan volume in FY 1995. Although the legislation reduces the guaranty rate for those loans from 90 percent to 80 percent, it reduces the rate for larger loans from 85 percent to 75 percent. For larger

loans, fees will be on a blended scale, based on the guaranteed amount, as follows:

- For loans above \$100,000 in which the guaranteed amount is less than \$250,000, the fee will be 3 percent of the guaranteed amount.

- For loans up to \$500,000, the fee will be 3 percent of the guaranteed amount up to \$250,000 and 3.5 percent of the guaranteed amount between \$250,000 and \$500,000.

- For loans in which the guaranteed amount is greater than \$500,000, the fee would be 3 percent of the amount up to \$250,000 and \$500,000, and 3.875 percent of the amount over \$500,000.

For all loans, the bill requires a 0.5 percent annual fee on each loan's outstanding balance. This fee replaces a 0.40 percent fee charged in FY 1995 only on loans sold in the secondary market.

"Essentially, we found ourselves in a position between two very serious competing demands: One, that we do everything we can to reduce the federal budget deficit, and two, that we somehow be able to meet steadily and sharply increasing demand for SBA loan guaranties," Lader said. "That demand has moved 7(a) from a \$3 billion program in 1989 adding an \$8.25 billion program in FY 1995."

AT&T program helps businesses get the most for marketing dollars

BASKING RIDGE—AT&T has launched the resources for growth program to help its business customers grow globally and get the most for their marketing dollars.

The program provides businesses with a wide variety of tools and resources necessary to expand successfully and to analyze and improve their return on sales and their investment in marketing programs.

For businesses seeking to expand internationally, the program provides information on assessing and targeting international markets, including in-depth reports on a variety of topics such as government regulations, shipping, and foreign distributors.

Entrepreneurs can also purchase at a discount products and services instrumental for international business, including language translation, fax equipment, and travel services such as lodging.

"By providing businesses with a single source for the vital information and products they need, we can help them overcome many of the barriers to successful growth," said Dan Schulman, marketing vice president for AT&T's Small Business Markets division. "AT&T Resources for Growth is designed to help business owners who are seeking to expand their reach, whether that expansion is across town or across the ocean."

Businesses focused on improving their marketing processes will have access to marketing tools such as customer lead lists and credit reports to help them effectively identify and qualify prospective customers. The program also provides services such as advertisement development and printing services, as well as training seminars on topics such as cus-

See MARKETING DOLLARS/page B-6

BUSINESS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1
NEW YORK—NMSDC Annual Conference and Business Opportunity Fair, sponsored by the National Minority Supplier Development Council. Call 212-944-2430.

NEW YORK—Effective Executive
Speaking session at the AMA Management Center. For more info call 1-800-262-9699.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2
ELIZABETH—Regional Business Partnership's Office Technology Expo at the Newark Hilton Airport at 8 a.m. For more info call 201-242-6237, ext. 222.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3
WAYNE—Affirmative Action Distinguished Lecture Series at William Paterson College at 5 p.m. For more info call 201-595-2371.

NOVEMBER 5 - 10
NEW YORK—54th Annual Institute on Federal Taxation six day conference at the Sheraton. For more info call 212-901-1325.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6
CRANFORD—Money Work for You course at Union County College at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 908-708-7600.

NOVEMBER 6 - 8
NEW YORK—Business to Business Database Marketing National Conference at the AMA Headquarters. For more info call 203-857-5680 or fax 203-857-5654.

NEW YORK—Enhancing Your Professional Skills
A Seminar for Sales Professionals sessions at the AMA Management Center. For more info call 1-800-262-9699.

BRIDGEVIEW—Business Card Exchanging Networking Social
at the Bridgewater Manor at 5 p.m. For more info call 908-725-1552.

NOVEMBER 7 - 9
NEW YORK—Advertising and copy writing seminar at the New York Hilton. For more info call 212-751-5656, Ext. 234.

NOVEMBER 7 - 28
NEW YORK—Business Development Assistance Program at the National Minority Business Council offices from 4 - 6 p.m. For more info call 212-573-2385.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9
NEWARK—RBP Affirmative Action - Minority and Women Small Business Symposium at the Newark Gateway Hilton Hotel at 8 a.m. For more info call 201-242-6237, ext. 222.

NEWARK—Center City Development
Corporation meeting at the Newark Gateway Hilton Hotel at 8 a.m. For more info call 201-242-6237, ext. 222.

PARSIPPANY—Wages, Hours & Pay
seminar for personnel and payroll managers at the Holiday Inn Parsippany. For more info call 201-263-2000.

NOVEMBER 10, 11
NEW YORK—Uncommon Women on Common Ground seminar at the Sheraton Towers from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 8 a.m.

NOVEMBER 12 - 14
UNIVERSAL CITY, CA—7th Annual EPA conference Extending Your Professional Reach at the Universal City Hilton. For more info call 718-469-9300.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13
NEW BRUNSWICK—NJAWB's Business Showcase at the Hyatt Regency from 6 to 8 p.m. For more info call Della Menichelli at 908-958-1919.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14
HACKENSACK—Tapping the Hidden Job Market workshop at Bergen County Technical Schools at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 201-343-8000, x.3345.

BEGINNING NOVEMBER 18
WAYNE—"Start Right Build Right Excel" 15-hour seminar for women every Tuesday evening at 6 p.m. For more info call 201-595-2354.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15
NEWARK—Government Center Development Corporation program at 905 Broad St. at 8:15 a.m. For more info call 201-242-6237, ext. 225.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16
JAMESBURG—Fall 95 Commercial and Residential Real Estate Auction at the Holiday Inn at 4 p.m. For more info call 1-800-418-2100.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18
PLAINFIELD—How To Sell in Today's Economy course at the Community Education Center from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. For more info call 908-756-500, x.2366.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21
PLAINFIELD—Financial Planning for Women course at the Community Education Center from 7 - 9 p.m. For more info call 908-756-500, x.2366.

NOVEMBER 28 - 30
BOSTON—Field & Sales Force Automation Conference. For more info and a free brochure call 508-470-3880 or fax 508-470-0526.

Send your business news and calendar to:

City News, PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07061

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PROSTATE CANCER SCREENING

Thursday, November 9
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

For men who:

- Are 40-50 with a family history of prostate cancer or are African-American;
- Are age 50-80;
- Have NOT had a PSA blood test in the past year;
- Are NOT under a physician's care for a prostate condition.

Screening fee—\$10
Appointments are necessary, register early.
Call (908) 668-3170
Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Partial funding for this program was made possible by a grant from Merck & Co., Inc.

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Federation

Continued from page B-4

This is a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage program, guaranteed by the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA). These loans are targeted to borrowers in rural areas.

Community Home Buyer's Program-3/2 Option

The product allows borrowers to meet the minimum five percent down payment with 3 percent from personal resources and two percent by way of a gift, a grant or an unsecured loan from a family member, a not-for-profit organization or public entity.

Community Home Improvement Mortgage Loan

The Community Home Improvement Mortgage Loan combines rehabilitation financing with home purchase financing or refinancing in a

single loan.

Home Equity Conversion Mortgage
The Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) is an FHA insured reverse mortgage, designed and sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The HECM is suited to homeowners who are at least 62 years of age; who own their own homes and who wish to use the equity in their homes to cover part of their expenses after retirement.

According to Johnson, the Retail Production Division provides a Pre-Approval Commitment and a 24-Hour Loan Approval Program. The Pre-Approval Program approves borrowers prior to the selection of a home. The loan approval program ensures that the Federation meets the demands of today's home financing customers.

Marketing dollar

Continued from page B-4

and printing services, as well as training seminars on topics such as customer service, computing skills, and time management, to name a few.

"In today's competitive markets, even established businesses are looking for ways to improve their business," said Jane Applegate, noted small business expert and author of Jane Applegate's Strategies for Small Business Success.

"AT&T Resources for Growth combines the key elements a business needs for international and marketing growth and makes them easily accessible. That's a tremendous time-saver for any business owner."

Another program, started in May, called AT&T Resources for New

Business, is targeted to start-up businesses and has been well received by customers.

Businesses with AT&T long distance services are eligible for enrollment in AT&T Resources for Growth and can receive further information about the program by calling their AT&T account executive or 1-800-554-GROW. Start-up businesses seeking information about AT&T Resources for New Business can call 1-800-STARTER.

Newark offers SuNup food program

NEWARK—The Newark Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that the agency's "SuNup" program, a federally-funded initiative which aims to provide meals to children at no cost, is launching the City's annual, "Child Care Food Program." Sponsored by HHS/"SuNup," the program will run until September 1996.

The "SuNup" program is designed to provide nutritious meals to children in child care centers, recreation programs and after-school facilities around Newark.

Newark Mayor Sharps James urged all eligible citizens to take advantage of this beneficial program stating, "Children are truly the future and they need well-balanced nutritious, meals to grow, learn and excel. That is the reason the City of Newark is coordinating this federal initiative.

Meals are available at no charge to all children age 12 and under who are enrolled in the food program. The meals are served without regard to race, color, national origin, disability, age or sex, Rainey pointed out.

The program is operated in accordance with USDA policy which prohibits child care meal providers from discriminating against participants based on race, nationality, disability, age or gender. According to the Agriculture Department, any person who believes they have been discriminated against in any USDA-related activity should write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

Volunteers needed

NEWARK—The Renaissance Project at Central High School is seeking community volunteers and college students to join with teachers to form mentoring teams for small groups of students.

Mentoring meetings are scheduled to be held at the school twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. The teams will focus on leadership development, team building and community service. For more information and an application, contact Lessa Morse, New Jersey 1 to 1, at 201-242-1142.

Community schools receive \$200,000 grant for NCC

WASHINGTON, DC—Senator Bill Bradley (D-NJ) announced that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded \$200,000 to New Community Corporation (NCC) of Newark for the Community Schools program launched by him in 1994.

"New Community exemplifies the kind of strong, locally driven organization that I had in mind when I developed the idea of community schools," Bradley said. "New Community provides our children the attention, activity, and discipline needed to stop youth crime."

The grant was part of \$10 million in community schools funding approved for this year. The community schools program provides funding for community organizations to keep public school buildings open for supervised youth programs after school hours, on weekends, and during the summers.

The grants are used for activities such as tutorial and mentoring pro-

grams, workforce preparation, arts and cultural programs, and entrepreneurial training.

"New Community has shown that Community Schools will work in Newark. Through his efforts, fewer children in our state have to go home to an empty house, nor are they turned out into the cold at the end of the day," Bradley said.

This year's funding is part of the \$537 million Bradley secured for the program over the next six years. NCC will use the money for programs at Newton Street School for students in the local community.

They are honored to have been selected for the Community Schools program that Senator Bradley envisioned, legislated and brought into law," said Msgr. William J. Linder, founder of NCC.

To be eligible for funds, communities must demonstrate cooperation and shared responsibility between law enforcement, local groups, citizens and educators.

Link Community School celebrates 25 years

NEWARK—The Link Community School, a private, non-denominational alternative junior high school serving students from Newark's Central Ward, will celebrate its 25th Anniversary with a dinner to benefit the School at the Eagle Rock Club in Roseland.

Scheduled for Thursday, November 9, the reception will pay homage to Sister Vivien Jennings, O.P., Founder of Link and Past President of Caldwell College. Dr. John Noonan, President, Bloomfield College and John K. Roessner, III, President, E.J. Brooks Co. and Trustee Emeritus of

the Link Board.

Throughout its twenty five year history, Link Community School has quietly helped over 95 percent of its students go on to graduate from high school, while 83 percent have gone on to higher education.

Despite the tremendous obstacles faced by children growing up in the inner city, Link students continue to achieve personal and academic success, and are already making their mark in the fields of journalism, law, urban education, the trades and law enforcement.

"Although our task is to provide

students with a sound academic education, our emphasis is on the whole person," noted Sister Patricia McKearney, O.P., Principal of Link Community School.

"Link's small classes, conducted in a caring, supportive atmosphere, give our students the confidence and skill to achieve their potential. Link helps students develop values, a higher sense of self-worth and the belief that they can be a success," she added.

For ticket information, call Sister Anne Marie Lennon, at 201-642-5343.

JCSC's Upward bound program gets educational grant

JERSEY CITY—The United States Department of Education has awarded a \$901,000 grant to Jersey City State College for its Upward Bound Project, a pre-college program that provides local high school students with academic, cultural, and social mentoring through their senior year.

The award is one of the largest federal grants ever received by Jersey City State College. The commitment of the funds will permit the college to provide intensive instruction and

counseling to low-income, potential first-generation college students.

The project, under the direction of F. Louise Diaz, will recruit and enroll 500 low-income, ninth and tenth grade students from Dickinson, Ferris, Lincoln, and Snyder High Schools in Jersey City. The four-year grant which is effective this month will run through September 1999 and will be awarded in annual installments of approximately \$225,000.

Students enrolled in the program will have a wide range of support

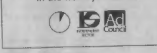
services available to them at the college and will be paired with college faculty and staff, and JCSC juniors and seniors who will be mentors.

They will also have access to tutoring services, attend after-school workshops conducted by Upward Bound counselors and attend Saturday classes at the college throughout the academic year and daily during a six-week summer session. For additional information about the JCSC Upward Bound Project call 201-200-2347.

In America, you are not required to offer food to the hungry. Or shelter to the homeless. In fact, one of the nicest things about living here in America is that you really don't have to do anything for anybody.



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* Interest is usually tax deductible; please consult your tax advisor.
** The after-tax examples assume a 36% tax bracket; your after-tax advantage may differ from the examples shown.
*** Based on current prime rate of 8.75% + 1% margin.

This program is available only to new equity credit line customers or to those who have had no credit line at Investors Savings Bank in the previous 6 months. You may borrow up to \$100,000; your credit line and balance of your first mortgage may not exceed 75% of the value of your house. After the fixed-rate introductory period, the Annual Percentage Rate (APR) of the loan becomes variable and changes to 1% over the prime rate for the life of the loan. Maximum APR is 15%.

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